Diaboros Live

アトリ抄

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Atori is part human and part diaboros.
She is working as a diaboros hunter
part time to support herself.
She is fighting her destiny
with the help of her friends.

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Diaboros Live
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田代琢也

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Atori is part human and part diaboros. She is working as a diaboros buster part time to support herself. She is fighting her destiny with the help of her friends.

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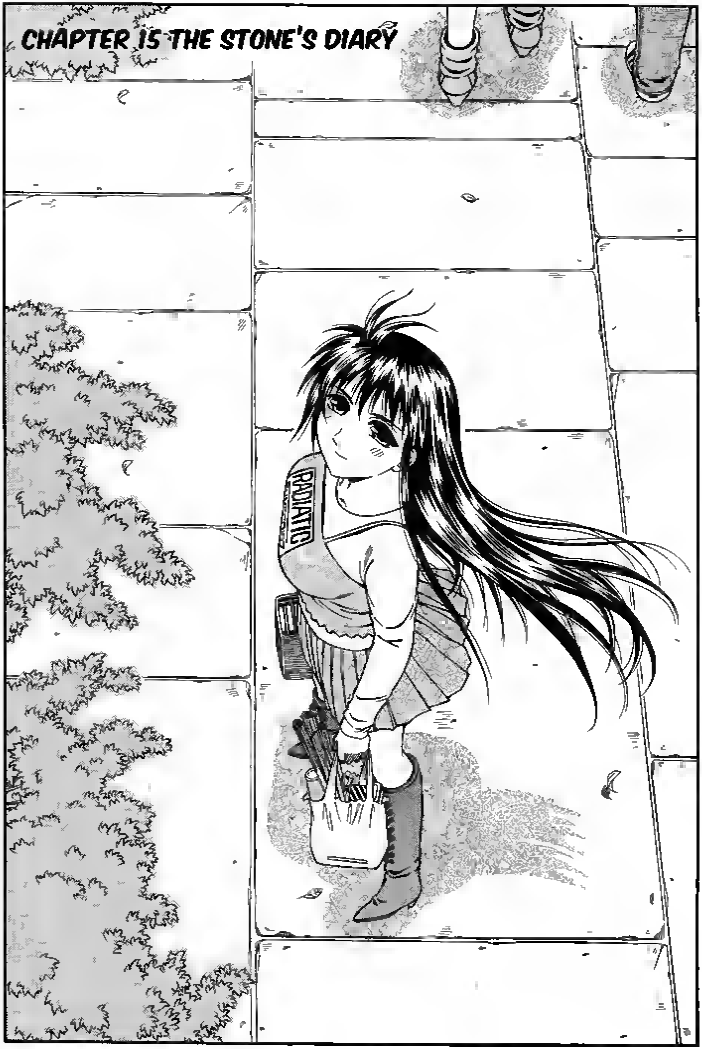
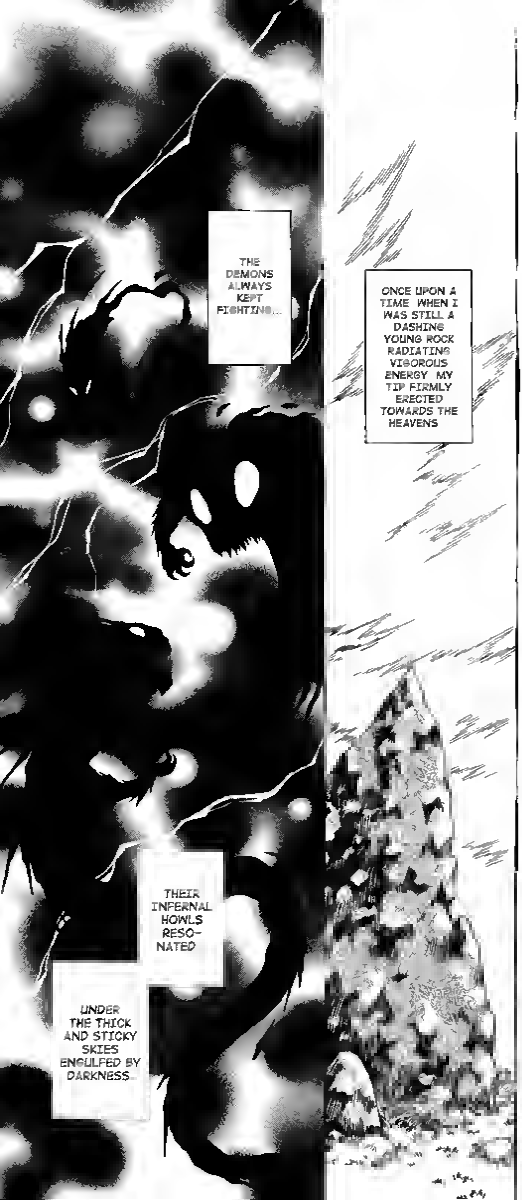
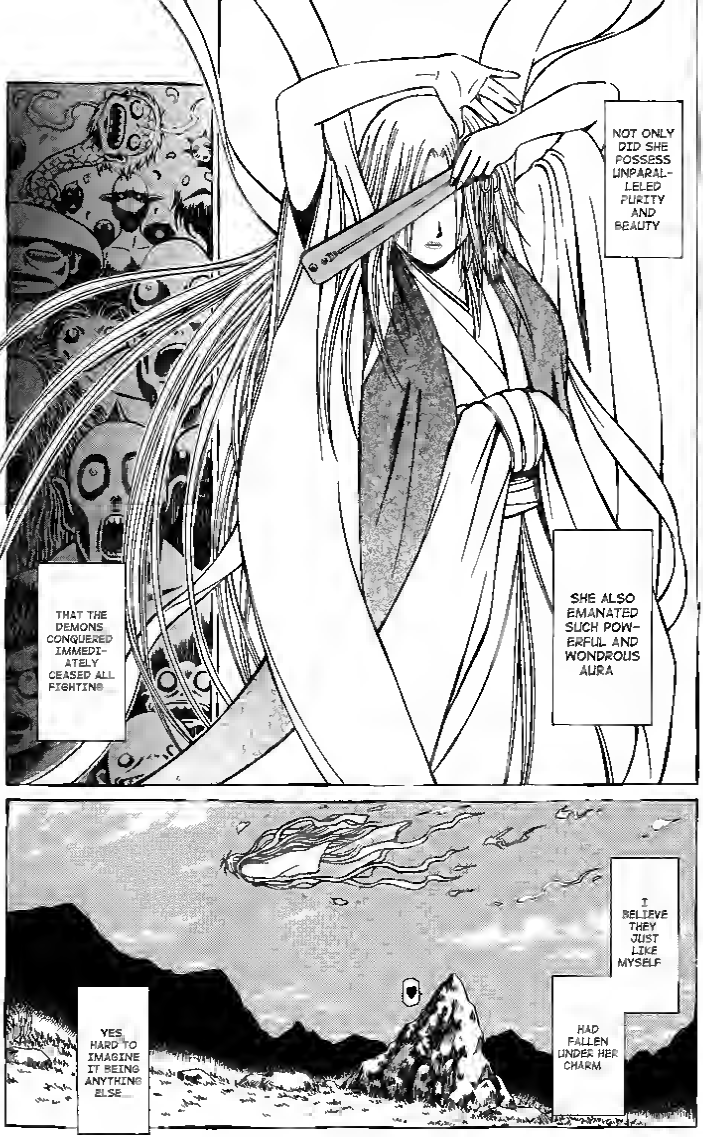
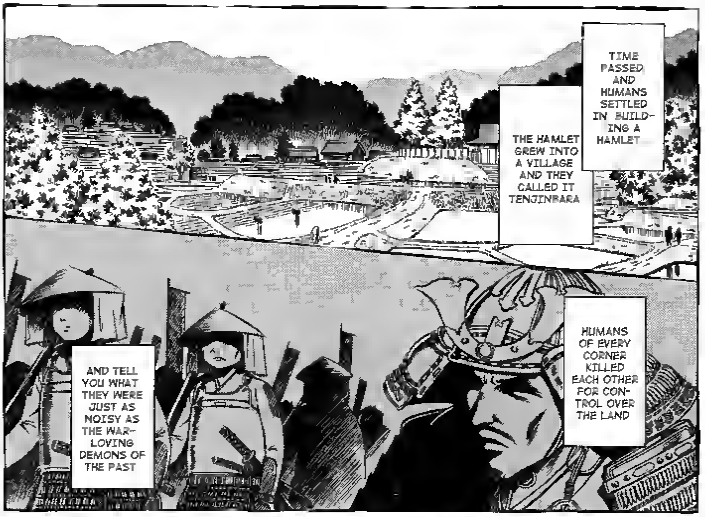


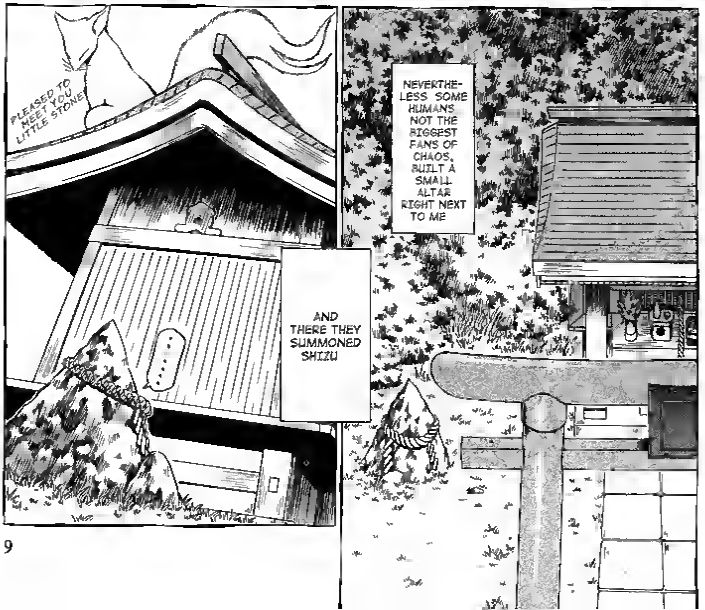
A STONE
I AM
THIS SPOT OF LAND HAS BEEN GUARDED BY ME FOR MIL-LENNIA
IM HUNGRY
I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF SHIZU'S COMPANY
A GOR-GEOUS FOX GODDESS* WITH WHITE FUR...
*FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE MESSENGER GOD OF TAKAYA THE FIFTH GOD


THE DEMONS ALWAYS KEPT FIGHTING...
THEIR INFERNAL HOWLS RESO-NATED
UNDER THE THICK AND STICKY SKIES ENGULFED BY DARKNESS...
ONCE UPON A TIME WHEN I WAS STILL A DASHING YOUNG ROCK RADIATING VIGOROUS ENERGY MY TIP FIRMLY ERECTED TOWARDS THE HEAVENS
THE FACT I'M TELLING YOU THIS STORY TODAY...
IS PROOF ENOUGH THAT EVEN I AM STARTING TO GET OLD
DID YOU SEE THE NICE WEATHER WE'RE HAVING?
HEY LITTLE STONE!

ONE DAY TIRED OF ALL THIS RACKET
I WAS ABOUT TO UNLEASH MY FURY ON A BUNCH OF EXCEPTIONALLY NOISY CRITTERS...
WELL, OBVIOUSLY I COULDN'T DO MUCH BUT WHATEVER
OH!
WHEN A BLINDINGLY BEAUTIFUL CREATURE SUDDENLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, FLOATING GENTLY IN THE SKIES, THE SAME WAY A NYMPH WOULD...
MY HEART WAS TAKEN ALONG WITH HER

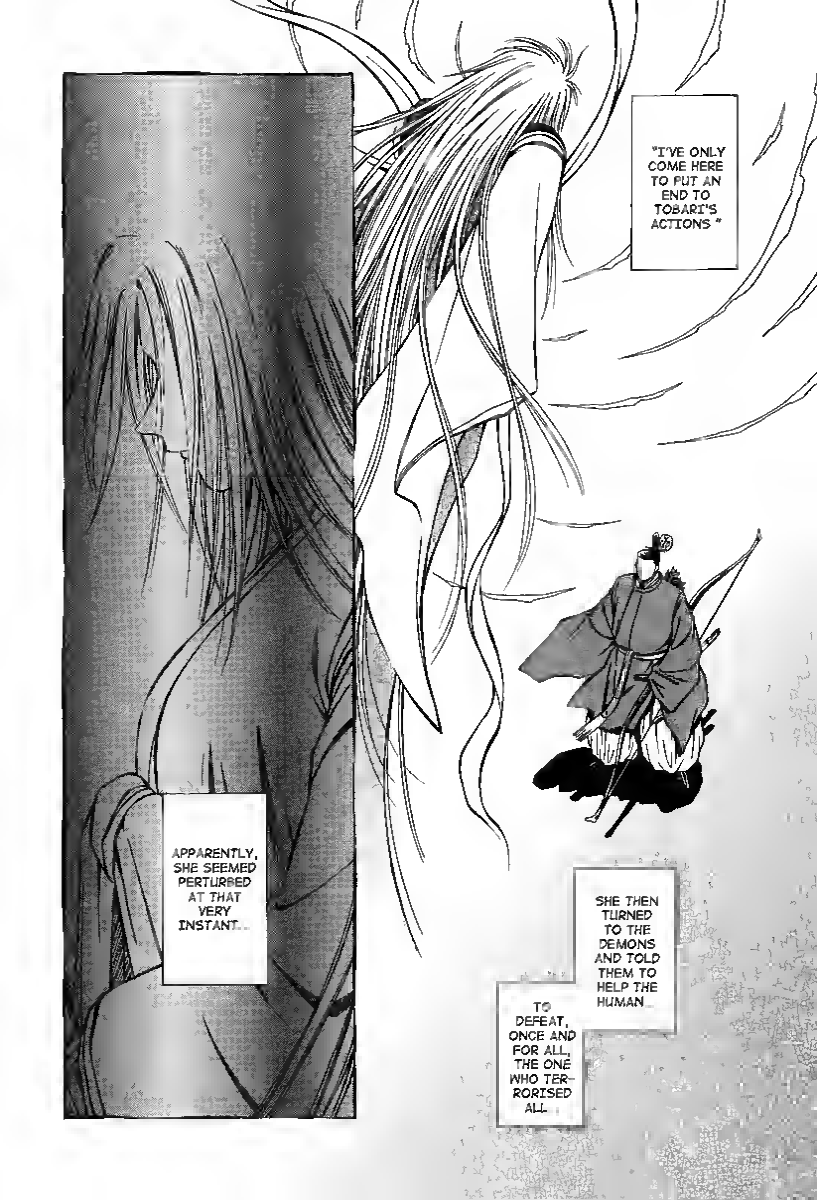

NOT ONLY DID SHE POSSESS UNPARALLELED PURITY AND BEAUTY
SHE ALSO EMANATED SUCH POWERFUL AND WONDROUS AURA
THAT THE DEMONS CONQUERED IMMEDIATELY CEASED ALL FIGHTING
I BELIEVE THEY JUST LIKE MYSELF HAD FALLEN UNDER HER CHARM
YES, HARD TO IMAGINE IT BEING ANYTHING ELSE...

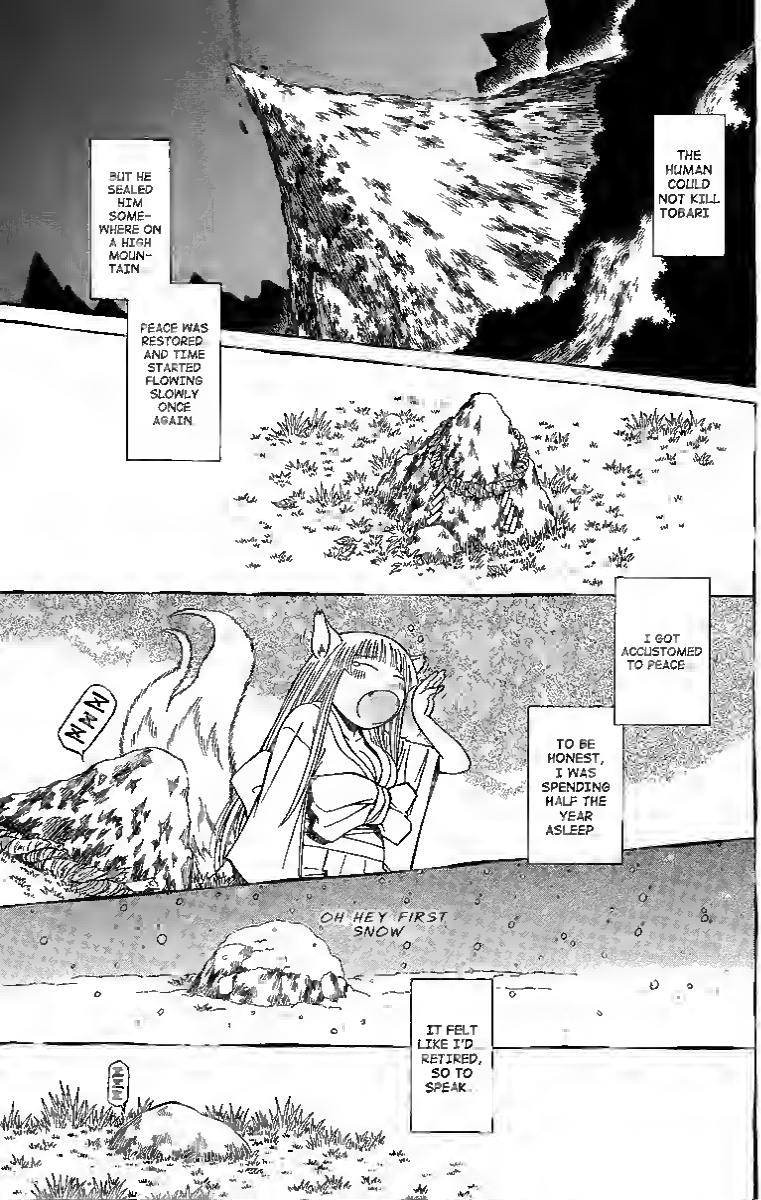

TIME PASSED AND HUMANS SETTLED IN, BUILDING A HAMLET
THE HAMLET GREW INTO A VILLAGE AND THEY CALLED IT TENJINRARA
HUMANS OF EVERY CORNER KILLED EACH OTHER FOR CONTROL OVER THE LAND
AND TELL YOU WHAT THEY WERE JUST AS NOISY AS THE WAR-LOVING DEMONS OF THE PAST


PLEASED TO MEET YOU, LITTLE STONE!
NEVERTHELESS SOME HUMANS NOT THE BIGGEST FANS OF CHAOS, BUILT A SMALL ALTAR RIGHT NEXT TO ME
AND THERE THEY SUMMONED SHIZU

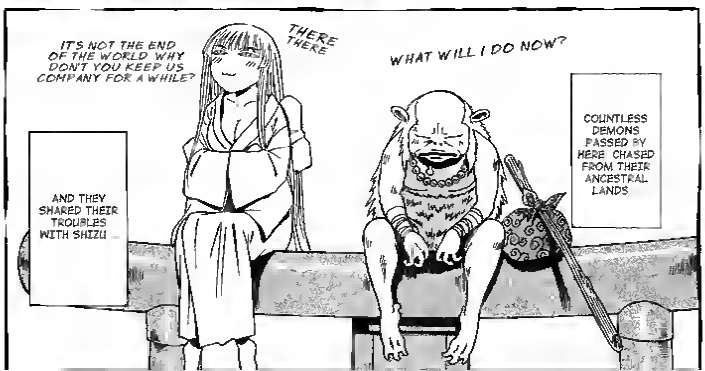
A DEMON OF EXTRAORDINARY FEROCITY WAS BORN.
SPEAKING OF WARS, A BIT BEFORE HUMANS GOT THE BRIGHT IDEA OF UNIFYING THE COUNTRY...
IT WAS ABOUT A THOUSAND YEARS AGO
TOHARI THAT WAS HIS NAME... APPEARED RIDING A BLACK CLOUD...
AND SOWED CHAOS AMONGST HUMANS AND DEMONS ALIKE...
EVEN I, THOUGH USUALLY SOLID AS A ROCK, TREMBLED IN FEAR BEFORE HIS DEMONIC AURA.
BA DU

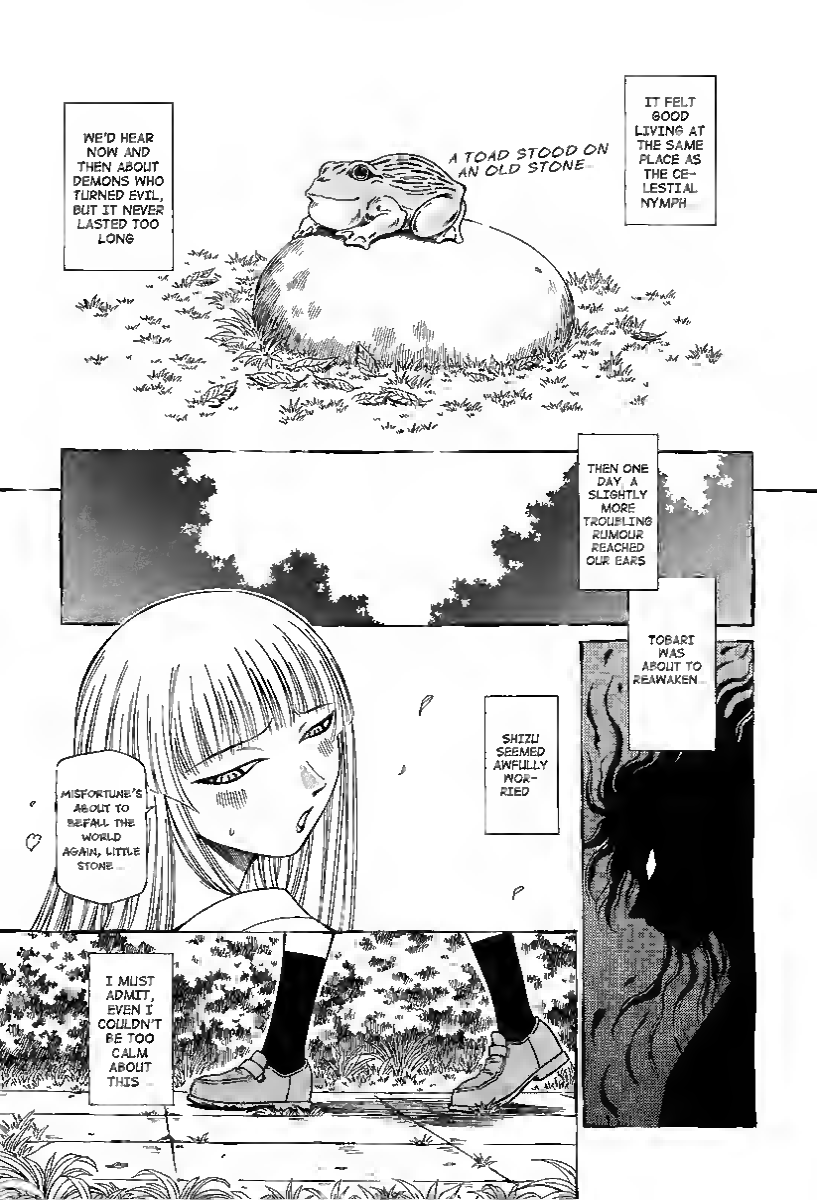
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THERE WAS HUGE COMMOTION AMONGST THE ENTITIES HAUNTING THE AREA
THEN CAME ALONG A HUMAN WARRIOR WIELDING A FORMIDABLE DEMON-KILLING BOW
HE ADDRESSED THE CELESTIAL NYMPH AS SUCH...


"I'VE ONLY COME HERE TO PUT AN END TO TOBARI'S ACTIONS."
APPARENTLY, SHE SEEMED PERTURBED AT THAT VERY INSTANT...
SHE THEN TURNED TO THE DEMONS AND TOLD THEM TO HELP THE HUMAN...
TO DEFEAT, ONCE AND FOR ALL, THE ONE WHO TERRORISED ALL...

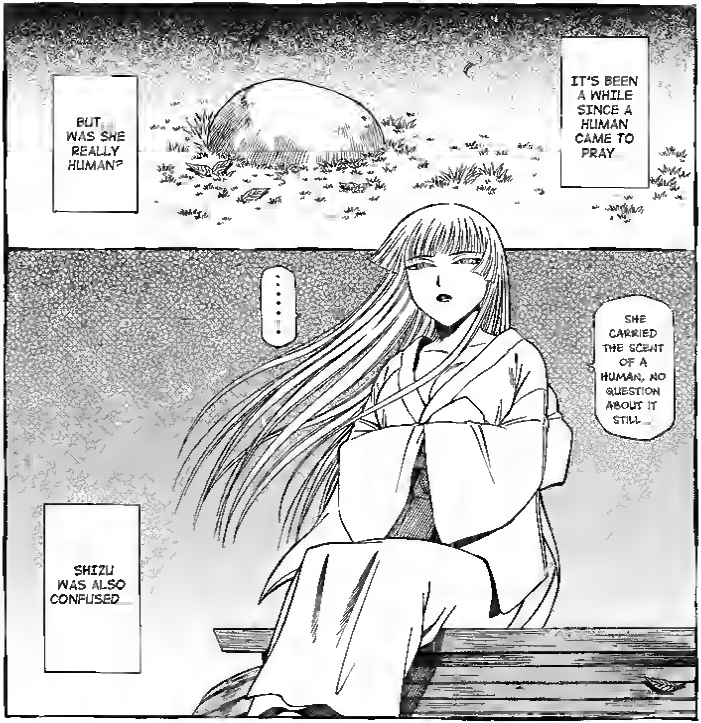

THE HUMAN COULD NOT KILL TOBARI
BUT HE SEALED HIM SOME-WHERE ON A HIGH MOUN-TAIN
PEACE WAS RESTORED AND TIME STARTED FLOWING SLOWLY ONCE AGAIN
I GOT ACCUSTOMED TO PEACE
TO BE HONEST, I WAS SPENDING HALF THE YEAR ASLEEP
MMM
OH HEY FIRST SNOW
IT FELT LIKE I'D RETIRED, SO TO SPEAK
MMM

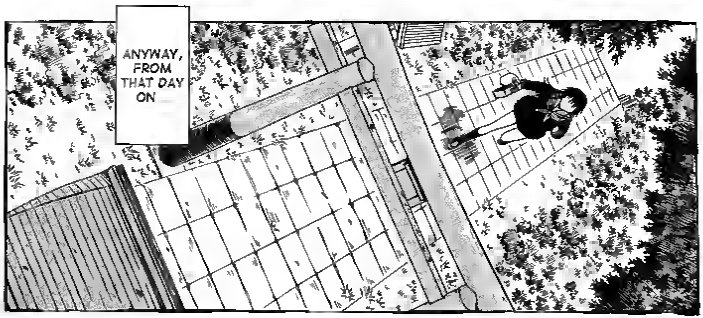
HUMANS NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE ME. THEY MANAGED TO SURVIVE ALL THE WARS THEY UNLEASHED ON THE WORLD
NOT ONLY DID THEY NOT DISAPPEAR THEY MULTIPLIED!
AN OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED INTO THE UNITED NATIONS
PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED
日本正式に国連加
BUILDING BIGGER AND BIGGER CITIES AND SEEMINGLY CAPABLE OF TAMING EVERY PART OF NATURE


IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD. WHY DON'T YOU KEEP US COMPANY FOR A WHILE?
THERE THERE
WHAT WILL I DO NOW?
AND THEY SHARED THEIR TROUBLES WITH SHIZU...
COUNTLESS DEMONS PASSED BY HERE CHASED FROM THEIR ANCESTRAL LANDS

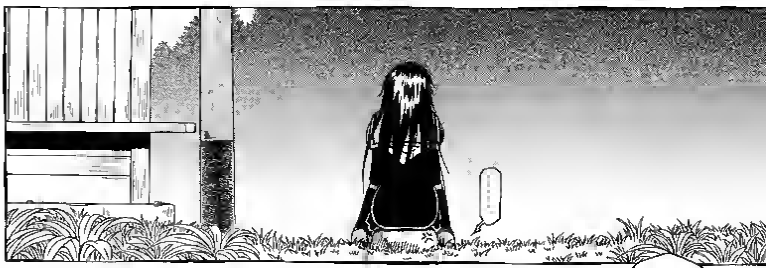

WE'D HEAR NOW AND THEN ABOUT DEMONS WHO TURNED EVIL, BUT IT NEVER LASTED TOO LONG
A TOAD STOOD ON AN OLD STONE...
IT FELT GOOD LIVING AT THE SAME PLACE AS THE CELESTIAL NYMPH...
THEN ONE DAY A SLIGHTLY MORE TROUBLING RUMOUR REACHED OUR EARS
TOBARI WAS ABOUT TO REAWAKEN...
SHIZU SEEMED AWFULLY WORRIED
MISFORTUNE'S ABOUT TO BEFALL THE WORLD AGAIN, LITTLE STONE...
I MUST ADMIT, EVEN I COULDN'T BE TOO CALM ABOUT THIS...

*INARI THE GOD OF RICE FOXES ARE CONSIDERED IT'S MESSENGERS
OH!
THERE WAS A SHRINE DEDICATED TO INARI* OVER HERE?!
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT,
FOXES LOVE FRIED TOFU!
I'LL TRY AND REMEMBER NEXT TIME!


IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE A HUMAN CAME TO PRAY
BUT WAS SHE REALLY HUMAN?
.....
SHE CARRIED THE SCENT OF A HUMAN, NO QUESTION ABOUT IT STILL...
SHIZU WAS ALSO CONFUSED...


ANYWAY, FROM THAT DAY ON...

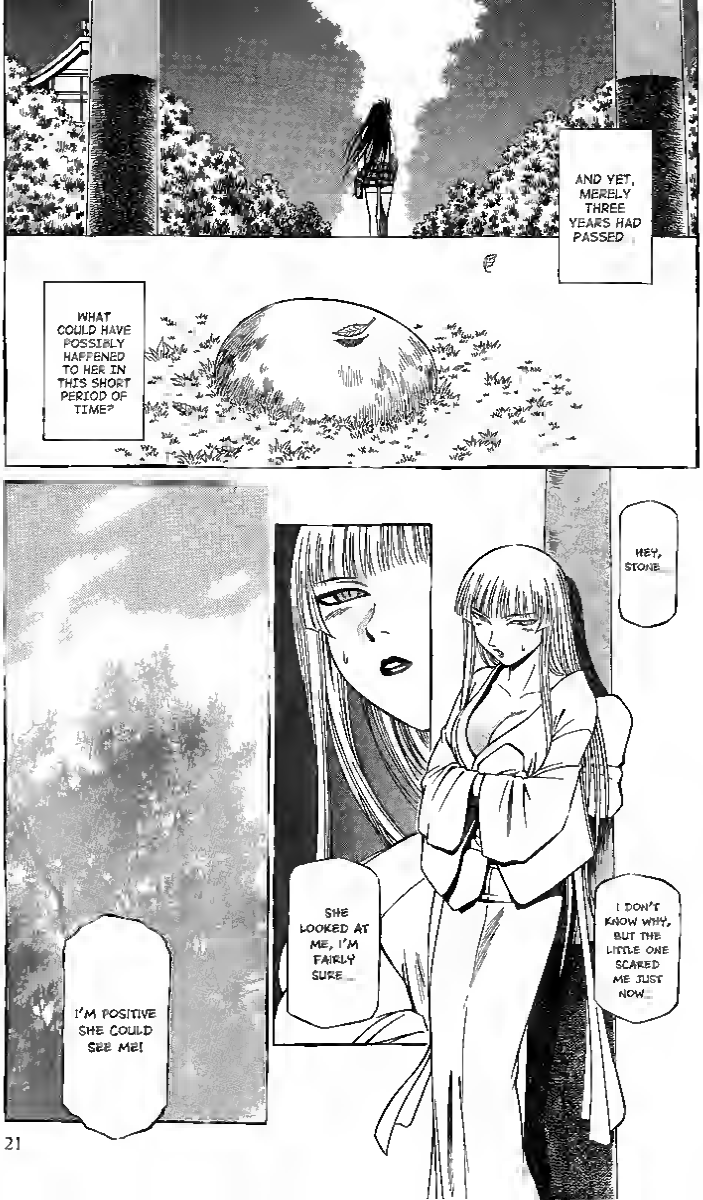
TODAY, AS PROMISED
I BRING YOU NARI-ZUSHI* AND SAKE!
* FRIED TOFU ROLLS WITH VINEGARED RICE



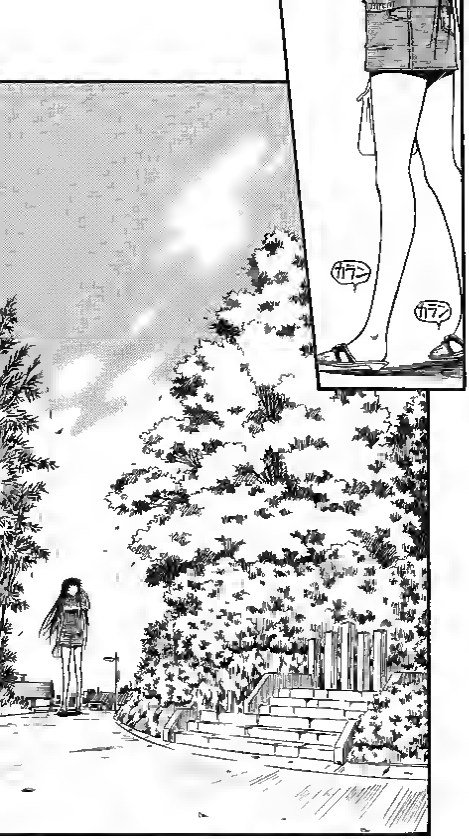
I DON'T HAVE A SINGLE CHILDHOOD MEMORY FROM BEFORE I MOVED IN HERE...
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MYSELF.
YOU KNOW, MISS FOX.

IF ONLY MY MOM OR MY DAD WERE STILL HERE AT LEAST...
BUT THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I CAN SHARE WITH MY FRIENDS
I WOULDN'T SAY I'M UNHAPPY
POOR CHILD...
THAT DAY, I HAD TROUBLE HOLDING BACK MY TEARS
SHE FORGOT ALL ABOUT HER PAST... AND LOST HER PARENTS
BUT AFTER THAT, AT LEAST IN APPEARANCE, SHE SEEMED TO LIVE A HAPPIER LIFE...

ONE DAY, SHE RETURNED TO SEE US... AND SHE HAD CHANGED COMPLETELY.
HER LARGE EYES HAD LOST THEIR INNOCENCE THEY HAD BECOME SHARPER, AS IF POSSESSED BY A VERY SPECIFIC GOAL...
IT WAS AS IF HER CHILDHOOD HAD COMPLETELY LEFT HER BODY.


AND YET, MERELY THREE YEARS HAD PASSED...
WHAT COULD HAVE POSSIBLY HAPPENED TO HER IN THIS SHORT PERIOD OF TIME?
HEY, STONE...
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THE LITTLE ONE SCARED ME JUST NOW...
SHE LOOKED AT ME, I'M FAIRLY SURE...
I'M POSITIVE SHE COULD SEE ME!

IT SEEMS THERE ARE HUMANS WHO CAN SEE BEINGS FROM THE NETHER-WORLD
HOWEVER FOR SHIZU THAT WASN'T ALL
WHEN OUR EYES MET ..
I FELT CHILLS RUNNING THROUGH MY WHOLE BODY...
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD
WELL, YOU CAN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND, ANYWAY.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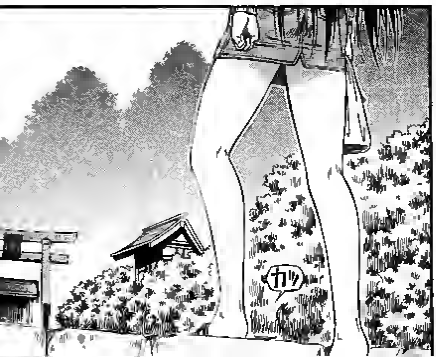
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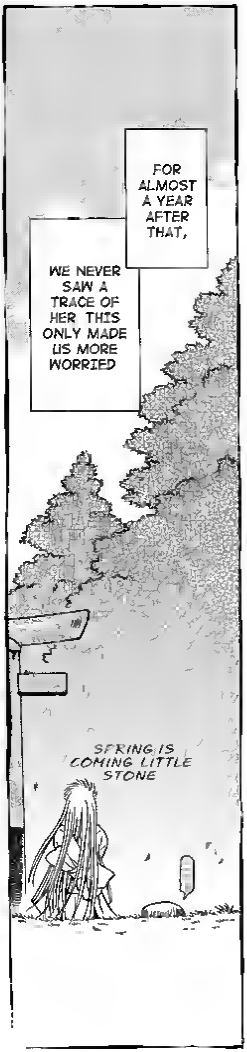
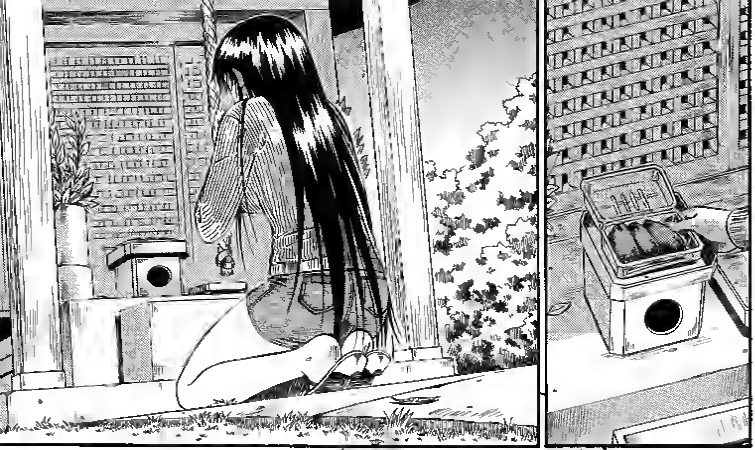
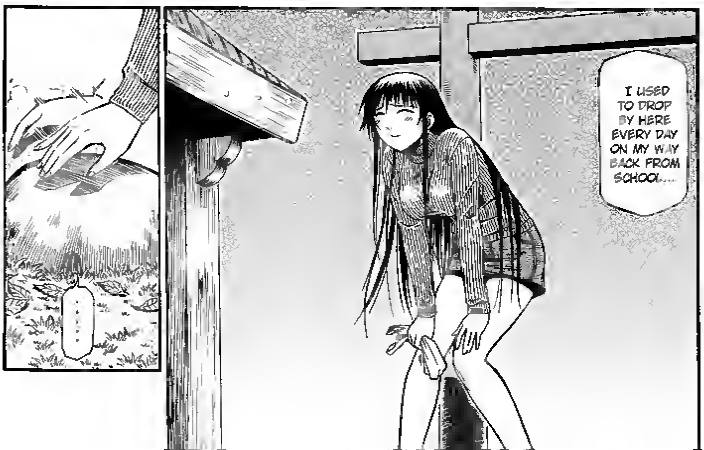

FOR ALMOST A YEAR AFTER THAT,
WE NEVER SAW A TRACE OF HER THIS ONLY MADE US MORE WORRIED
SPRING IS COMING LITTLE STONE

IT'S BEEN A WHILE
MISS FOX..



ACTUALLY, I KIND OF FORGOT ABOUT YOU, TO BE HONEST...
SO MUCH HAS BEEN HAPPEN-ING


I USED TO DROP BY HERE EVERY DAY ON MY WAY BACK FROM SCHOOL...
.....

HERE NOTHING HAS CHANGED

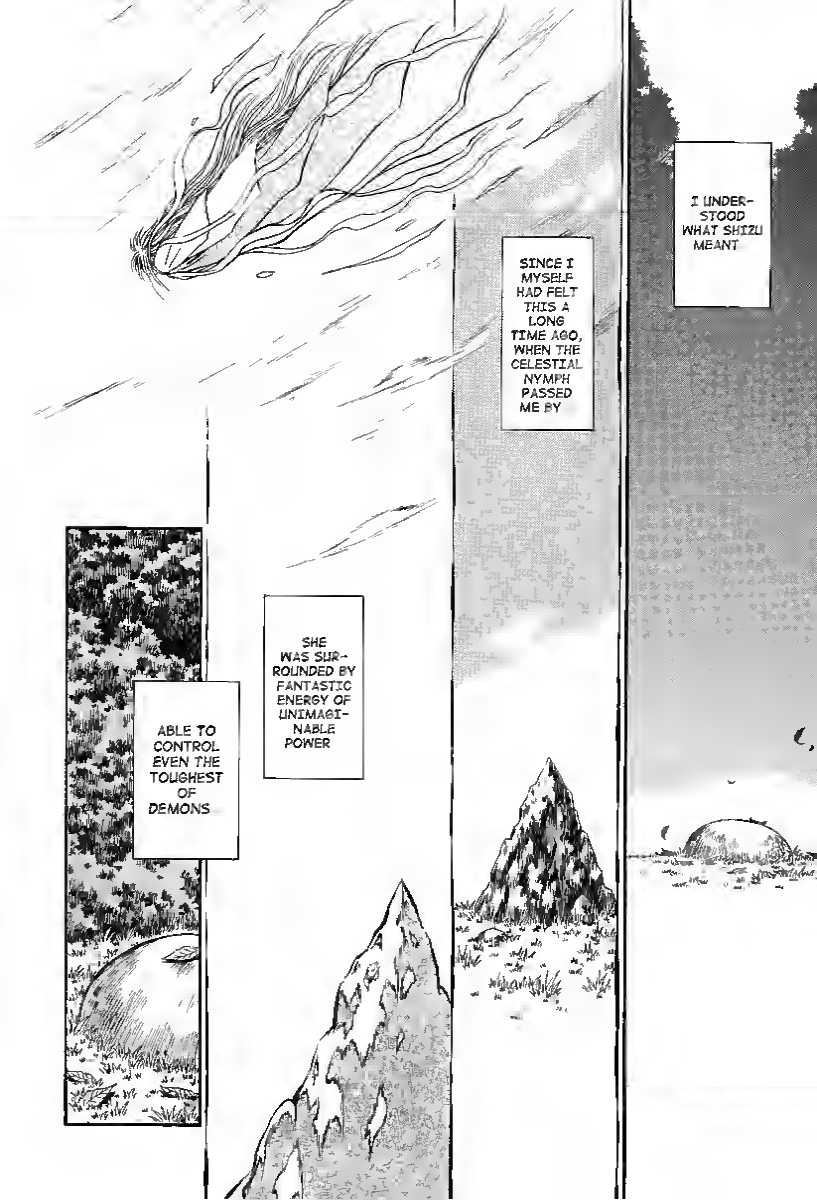
I WAS GRAVELY WOUNDED
I WONDER
IF YOU PUNISHED ME BECAUSE I FORGOT ABOUT YOU...
I'D NEVER DO THAT...
HNNN!

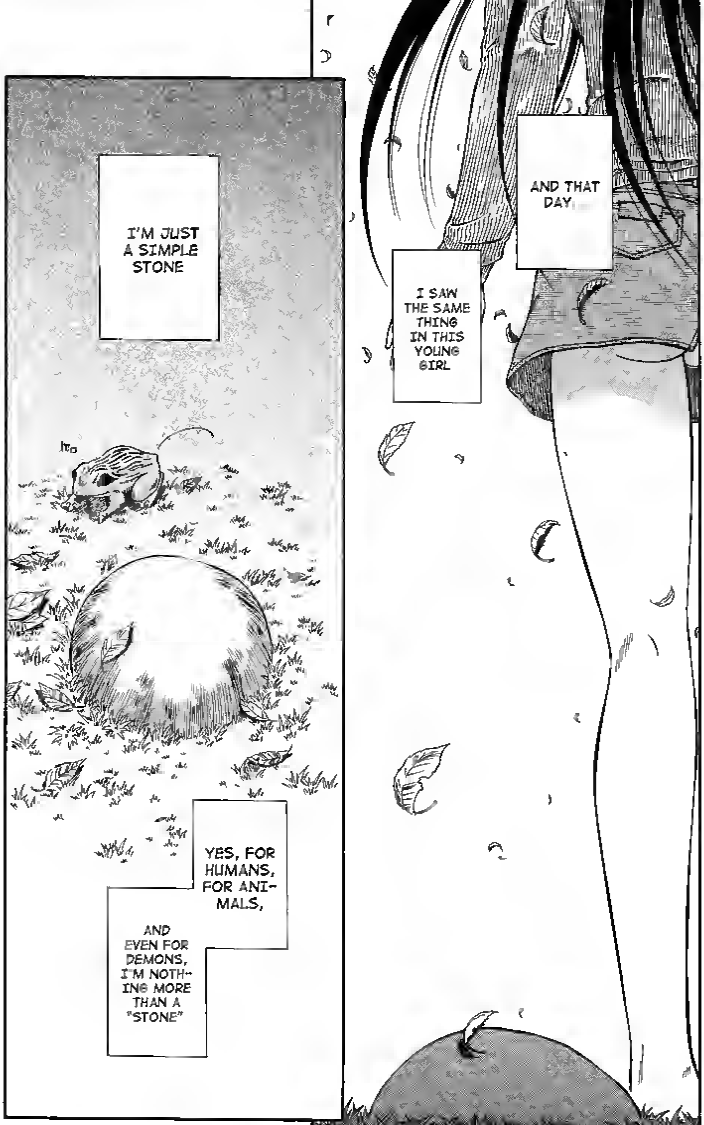
I LOVE THIS PLACE...
YES, TRULY...
I FEEL SO GOOD...
SO CALM YOU CAN BARELY HEAR THE NOISES OF THE CITY...

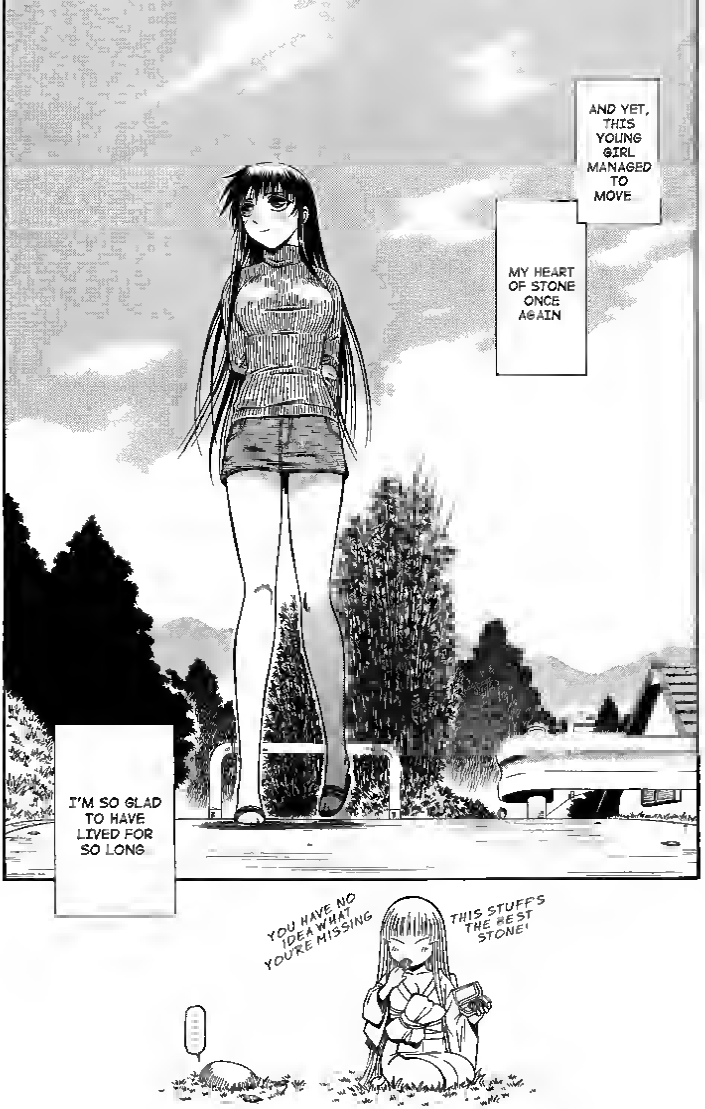
AH!
SORRY!
I FORGOT TO BRING YOU SAKE!
!
I'M STILL A MINOR, SO I'M NOT ALLOWED TO BUY ANY
BUT I'LL ASK AN ADULT!
I'LL ALSO BRING YOU MORE FRIED TOFU!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU!
DEAL!

WELL..
TILL NEXT
TIME!

AH ONE MORE THING! IT'S GOTTEN WARMER LATELY...
SO EAT THE INARI QUICKLY BEFORE THEY SPOIL!
IT'S VERY SURPRISING, STONE...
I NO LONGER FEEL THAT CUTTING, HEAVY AURA COMING FROM HER...
AH, SHE'S CHANGED QUITE A BIT, OUR LITTLE ONE...
NOT AS MUCH ON THE OUTSIDE AS ON THE INSIDE, I MIGHT ADD...
HMM, HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS...?

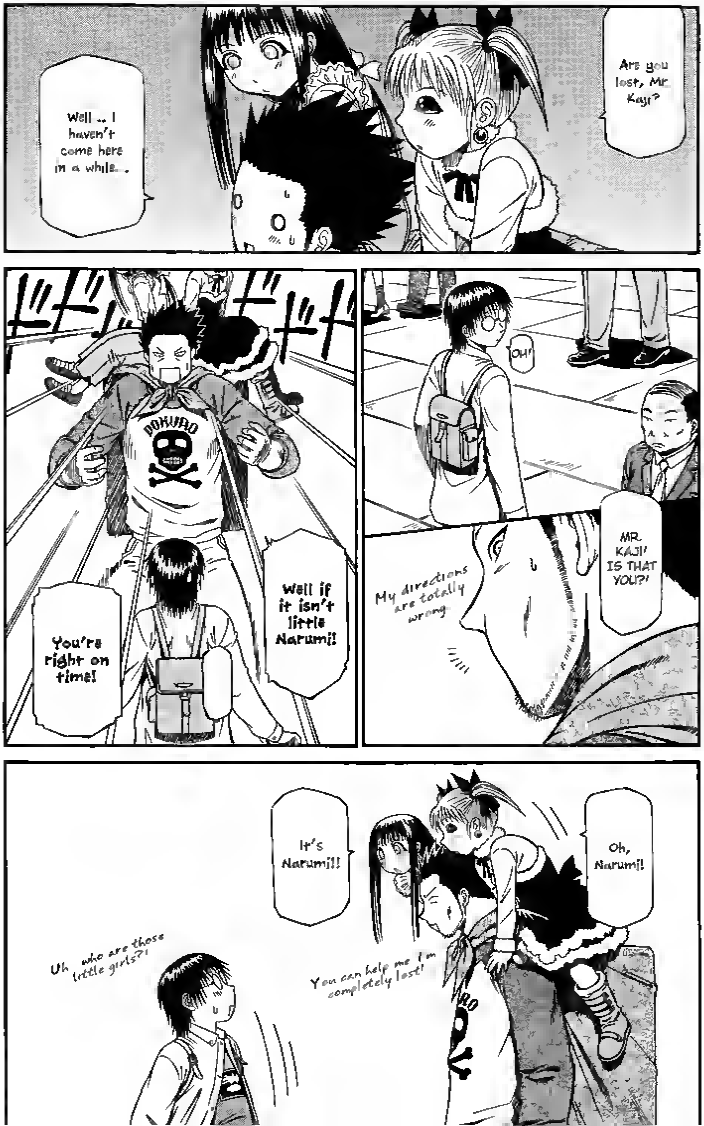

I UNDERSTOOD WHAT SHIZU MEANT
SINCE I MYSELF HAD FELT THIS A LONG TIME AGO, WHEN THE CELESTIAL NYMPH PASSED ME BY
SHE WAS SURROUNDED BY FANTASTIC ENERGY OF UNIMAGINABLE POWER
ABLE TO CONTROL EVEN THE TOUGHEST OF DEMONS


I'M JUST A SIMPLE STONE
YES, FOR HUMANS, FOR ANIMALS,
AND EVEN FOR DEMONS, I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A "STONE"
I SAW THE SAME THING IN THIS YOUNG GIRL
AND THAT DAY


AND YET, THIS YOUNG GIRL MANAGED TO MOVE
MY HEART OF STONE ONCE AGAIN
I'M SO GLAD TO HAVE LIVED FOR SO LONG
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE MISSING
THIS STUFF'S THE BEST STONE!

ATORI
RAW PROVIDER: SHARE
TRANSLATOR: GEORGI
PROOFREADER: LORDLESTAT
CLEANER: WILCOXII
TYPESETTER: WILCOXII
Q-CER: LORDLESTAT
HTTP://IMANGA SCANS.ORG

Mr. Kaya, what's that?!
That's a traffic light! It helps regulate the passage of cars and pedestrians!
So...
Hey! It was my turn!!
And what about the round thing over there?!
Huh?! No, impossible...
I don't get it anymore...
And that, returning thingy?
What's the flashing thing over there?


Are you lost, Mr. Kaji?
Well ... I haven't come here in a while...
MR. KAJI! IS THAT YOU?!
My directions are totally wrong
Well if it isn't little Narumi!
You're right on time!
Oh, Narumi!
It's Narumi!!
You can help me I'm completely lost!
Uh, who are those little girls?!

CHAPTER 16 THOSE WHO ARE "THERE"

Hi, Atori! Doing well?
OH... WE MET AT HQ, RIGHT...?
I don't even know his name
Kaji! Well I'll be!!
We don't see you around these parts very often!
My name is Kaji, a friend of Namase.
Correct, but it's the first time we've talked

Be careful, Arori!
This guy's a womanizer!
LET'S TALK AT MY PLACE, IF YOU'D LIKE!
Believe it or not, I almost got lost! I couldn't recognize anything!
Shut up! You're one to talk!
I like girls' hair! It's different!
My point exactly! That's what I call perverted!
?

As you know, Hō is in ruins...
コポ
コポ
コポ
鮨
So I'll be living under your roof for a while.
I'll be imposing myself, if you will.
KOKURO
You're welcome.
Can I smoke?
OF COURSE!
Thanks.
Sur!
Srrr rl
さっ
Srrr! Srrr!

?
?
Tell me, Atori...
do you plan...
to keep chasing demons?
HUH?!
Croc!

"BIG BROTHER"?
Won't you take us someplace fun?!
Come on, big brother, hurry up!
WHY NOT GO TO ATORI'S PLACE?
Mr. Kuji needs to talk to her!
We just kept him company.
It's our first time in the human world!
?
WAAH!

He's right, Kano! You know very well that over here, we're Narumi's little sisters!
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!
YOU HAVE TO ACT LIKE HUMANS!
SO, KANO AND NAKO...
I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO DO, SO YOU NEED TO COME WITH ME!
BUT AFTERWARDS, I PROMISE I'LL TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE!
and this is Nako! Can you take care of my little angels?
Here's Kano...
DOKURO
WHAT A DRAG...
Deal! ♡
Whisper!

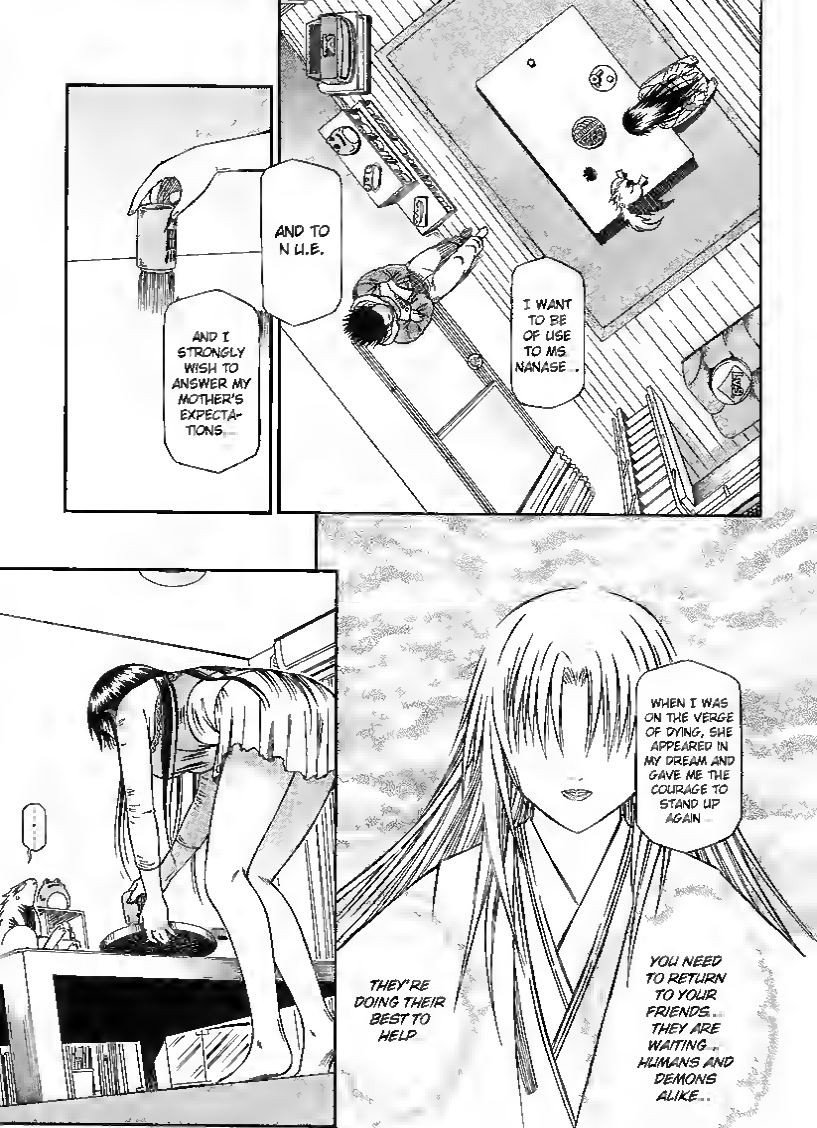
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
If you decide to abandon everything so you can live as a human,
honestly, I can't think of anyone who could blame you.
You could forget everything about the demon world...
You'd be rid of the A.L.I.E., of Jiraiya... of everything that messes with your life, really!
Once again, you'd be a school girl just like any other.

Is that even possible? She's half demon, you know...?
It's true that if a pure demon appears before her, her body might react.
But then I asked the old Shirahige.
Her body... that is, her bones, organs, etc... her body is that of a completely normal human girl...
She wouldn't remember anything, and no-one could discover her true nature
.....
WHY TELL ME THIS NOW?

When you got hurt by Mitsuruji...
You know,
it would make Natumi happy
we talked...
and he strongly insisted that you should be able to choose to live as a human...
.....

MY WOUND IS HEALED NOW
BUT IN MY DREAMS, I CAN STILL FEEL HIS BLADE BITING INTO MY SKIN
HOW MANY TIMES
HAVE I FELT MY BODY SPLIT IN HALF AGAIN?

AND THEN I THINK HOW IF I EVER MEET AN ADVERSARY OF MITSURUGI'S CALIBRE, I MIGHT VERY WELL LOSE MY LIFE...
AND THIS TERRIFIES ME...
.....
BUT I HAVE NO RIGHT TO RUN AWAY.

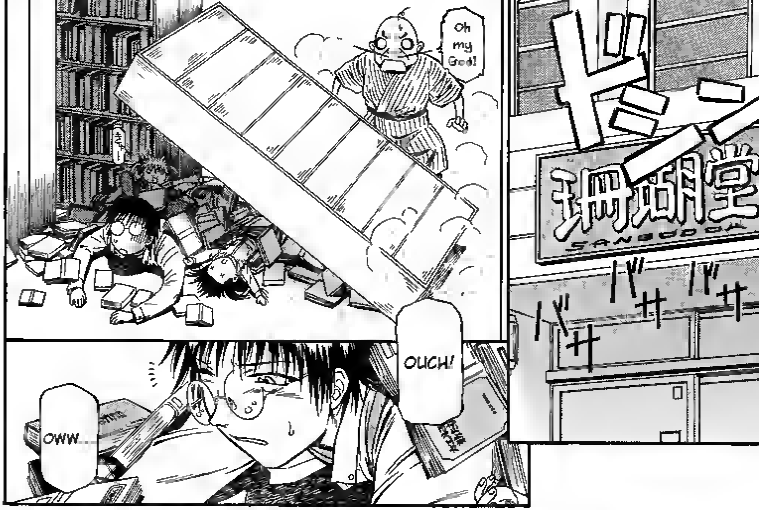

I WANT TO BE OF USE TO MS. NANASE.
AND TO N.U.E.
AND I STRONGLY WISH TO ANSWER MY MOTHER'S EXPECTATIONS...
WHEN I WAS ON THE VERGE OF DYING, SHE APPEARED IN MY DREAM AND GAVE ME THE COURAGE TO STAND UP AGAIN...
YOU NEED TO RETURN TO YOUR FRIENDS... THEY ARE WAITING... HUMANS AND DEMONS ALIKE...
THEY'RE DOING THEIR BEST TO HELP
.....

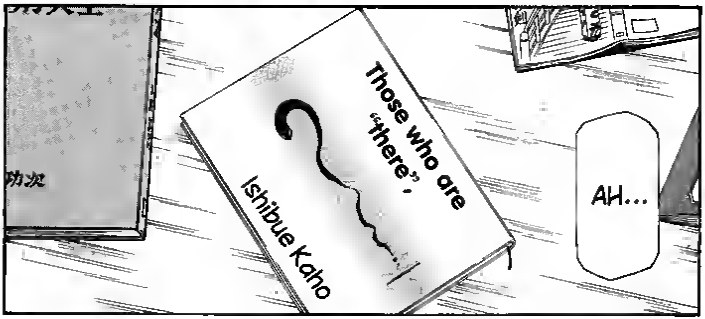
OBVIOUSLY, IF I FORGOT ABOUT EVERYTHING...
AND WENT ON TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, IT WOULD BE MUCH EASIER FOR ME
BUT...
LIVING AMONGST CREATURES FROM THE NETHERWORLD ISN'T TOO BAD, EITHER!

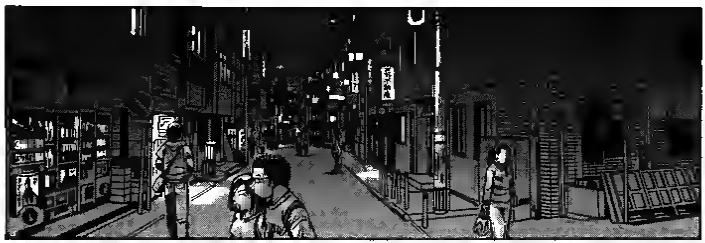
What you've seen so far is probably nothing but a joke compared to what awaits you...
the ALICE is going through some rough times...
Presently,
That's why I want you to take your time weighing the pros and cons...
before giving me your answer.
I don't want you to regret anything later!
ALL RIGHT...
THESE COOKIES ARE INCREDIBLE!

Oh?!
GAGORE
JAPAN
SODO
Oh?!
AAAH! PUT THIS BACK! IT'S NOT FOR YOU!
HAHEM
Ugh
Ugh
Hey, Narumi, how come we can't open this book?
IT'S WRAPPED IN PLASTIC SO YOU CAN'T LOOK INSIDE!
SO, WHERE'D YOU FIND THIS?
?
?
NO WAY I COULD FIND MY BOOK IN PEACE WITH THOSE TWO PESTS AROUND...
THERE
IT SHOULD BE SOME-WHERE HERE...

Is that the one you want, Nako?
No, not this one!
The white one next to it!
There, that's the one!
WAAAH!
Huh?!
KANO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!!
Oops?!
!!
バゴッ

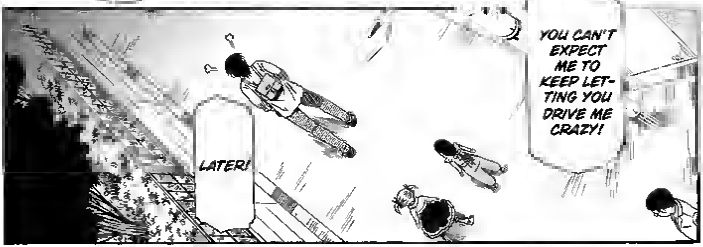

Oh my God!
ドン
珊瑚堂
SANGODO
OUCH!
OWW...

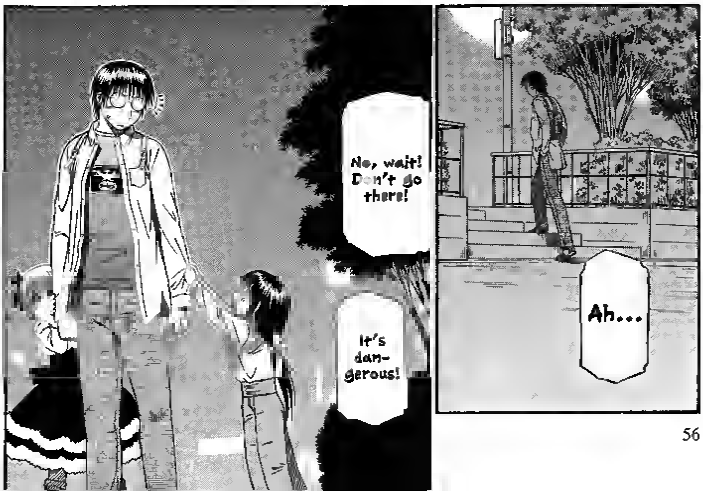

Those who are "there",
Ishibue Kaho
AH...



GRRR IT'S VERY LATE
Hey, Narumi!
Where are we going now?
!
ON TOP OF IT ALL, I HAD TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGES
I'M SENDING THE BILL TO N U E!

YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT! I'M GOING HOME!
What?!


YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO KEEP LETTING YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY!
LATER!


No, wait! Don't go there!
It's dangerous!
Ah...

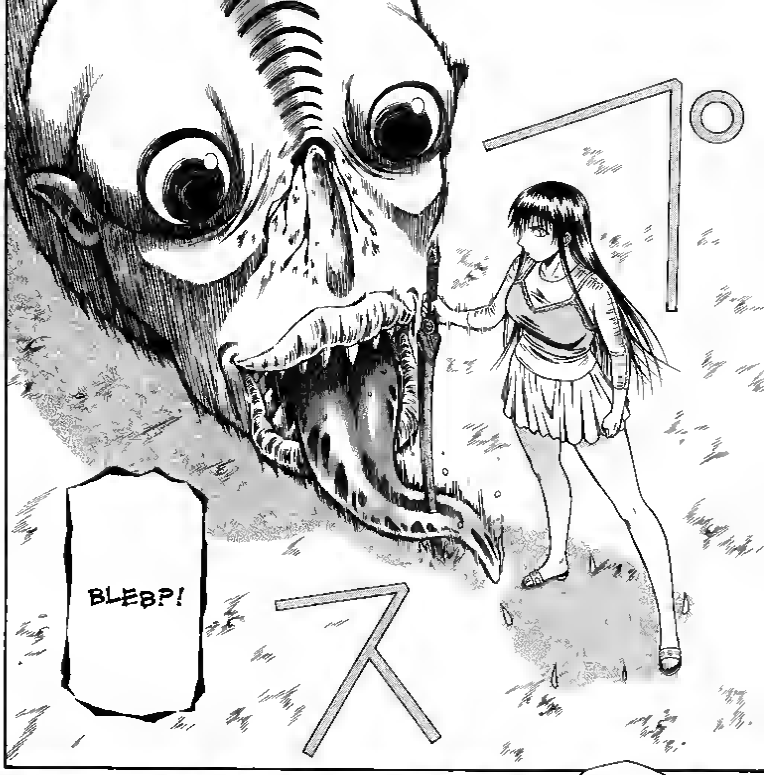
WHAT THE..?!
RATHER, THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD ALSO HURRY HOME!
PERHAPS, BUT IT'S THE SHORTEST WAY HOME!
Aaah! I knew it!
WAAH! I CAN'T MOVE
Ho ho! ♡
What's this? Two little demons coming my way...

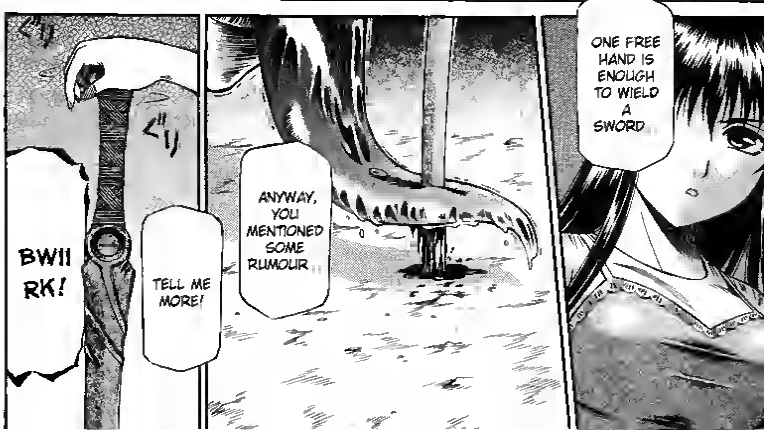
YOUR STROLL ENDS HERE, YOUNG ONES!
!!
GNI-YAHYA!

I can't move!
Me neither!
YOU'VE BEEN IMMOBILIZED!
Shunn!
I'VE NAILED YOUR SHADOWS DOWN!
HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR LITTLE TOES...

TWO LOVELY LITTLE DEMONS WALKING WITH HUMANS...
ニヤリ
SO THE RUMOUR WAS TRUE.
ガッ
ANYWAY, TODAY'S MY LUCKY DAY! EVERY TIME I EAT A HUMAN OR A DEMON...
I BECOME STRONGER!
Kyaaah!
Dirty pervert!
ゾワッ

Miss Atori!
KAJI WAS WORRIED, SO I CAME LOOKING FOR YOU...
ATORI!
OU AG H!
Tsak!
Tsak!
THEN HOW ABOUT THIS?
NOW YOU'RE AT MY MERCY!
WA AH!


BLEBP!


BWII RK!
TELL ME MORE!
ANYWAY, YOU MENTIONED SOME RUMOUR...
ONE FREE HAND IS ENOUGH TO WIELD A SWORD...

バタ
AAAH!
WAAH!
バタ
IF I SHALK, YOU SHAKE DIS SHING OFFF!
THE N.U.E IS FALLING APART...
TWO OF THE SAGES HAVE BETRAYED IT...
THEY AND THEIR FOLLOW-ERS..
THE N.U.E IS GOING THROUGH SOME ROUGH TIMES..
PRESENTLY,
バリ

NOW YOU'LL KNOW PAIN!!!
HUH?
ズ ズ ズ
ハ ハ
ア ア

Miss Atori!!
Uh...
Miss !?
THERE I CAN MOVE AGAIN!
HI-CHAN WASN'T WITH YOU?
SHE'S SLEEPING AT HOME...
SORRY...
HMM...
AND THE TWO GIRLS? ARE THEY KAJI'S DAUGHTERS?!
BEATS ME..

That's one of the human world's perks.
The days are bright, and the nights are dark.
From here, the moon looks breath takingly beautiful
Let's bring some good sake next time!
Now that's a good idea!

ATORI
RAW PROVIDER: SHARE
TRANSLATOR: GEORGI
PROOFREADER: LORDLESTAT
CLEANER: WILCOXII
TYPESETTER: WILCOXII
Q-CER: LORDLESTAT
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CHAPTER 17 LESSONS FROM AN EXPERT IN LOVE RELATIONS

ぱさっ
JIRAI-YA!
I'LL BE OUT A BIT EARLY THIS MORNING! STILL ASLEEP?
Mezzanine
HE'S NOT HERE..
BAH, WHAT-EVER.

AH!
Thump Thump
Zrap!
Hrrr Hrrrr
ZZZ
ZZZ
Hrrr Hrrrr
ZZZ

GOOD MORNING!
MORNING! QUITE THE EARLY BIRD YOU ARE!
ガラ ガラ ガラ
* DOUSOSHIN GOD OF ROADS AND PATHWAYS, PROTECTOR OF TRAVELERS
* DOU SOSHIN
.....

KAKUDOU, ARE YOU THERE?
Oh, but it's my dear Miss Atori!
Pleasure to see you again!
Many thanks for your help last time!
SO? ARE YOU GETTING USED TO YOUR NEW DUTIES AS A LOCAL DEITY?
You could say that...
but I've got the feeling things aren't going so well on the other side...
YES...

TELL ME, KAKUDOU..
HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE THREE VENERABLE SAGES?
Who hasn't?
Other than youngsters and the occasional vagrant...
NOT TOO LONG AGO, TWO OF THEM LEFT THE N.U.E
道祖神
I KNOW SENKIOU.. WHO ARE THE OTHERS?
Yagiou and Suiko.
They're even older than the Tenshu!

Yagiou and Suiko...
Yagiou and his acolytes broke Tobari's seal and took him God knows where...
They made him their commander, most certainly with the intention of mounting a large offensive against the N.U.E...
For now, both camps are at equal footing...
That's why the celestial nymph will be in dire need of your help.
It's another way of calling your mother... In other words, the "Tenchu", if you prefer, is very worried by the current situation...
Ah, my apologies...
THE CELESTIAL NYMPH?

KAKU-DOU..
ARE YOU SAYING THAT.. THE TENSHU IS MY MOTHER?!
Miss Atori...
you mean you didn't know?

I may have screwed up...
Whoops... I think
Eh... Uhm...
THE N.U.E ....
FORBIDS DEMONS FROM INTERFERING WITH THE LIVES OF HUMANS.
AND MY JOB IS PRECISELY THE ELIMINATION OF THOSE WHO BREAK THAT RULE!

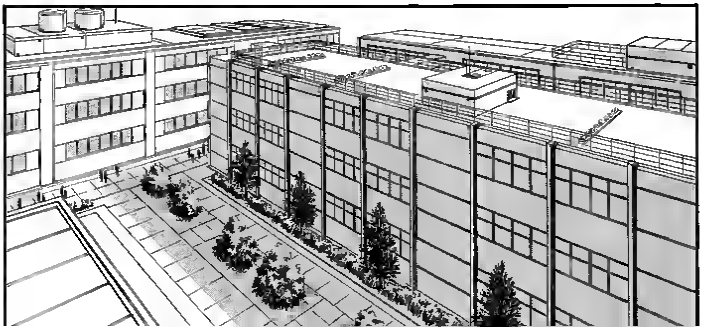
You're mistaken, Miss Ateri!
The N.U.E. rule applies to demons who would infest or devour humans...
An important distinction to make!
BUT IF MY OWN MOTHER IS THE TENSHU... AND MY FATHER IS HUMAN...
THEN WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?!
The case of your mother and father...
is completely different.

Yes...
Isn't it wonderful?!
Love that transcends the boundaries separating demons from humans!
Quite simply, it was...
love!
With that union,
the Tenshu proved to us, as if still necessary, the grandeur of her ideals...

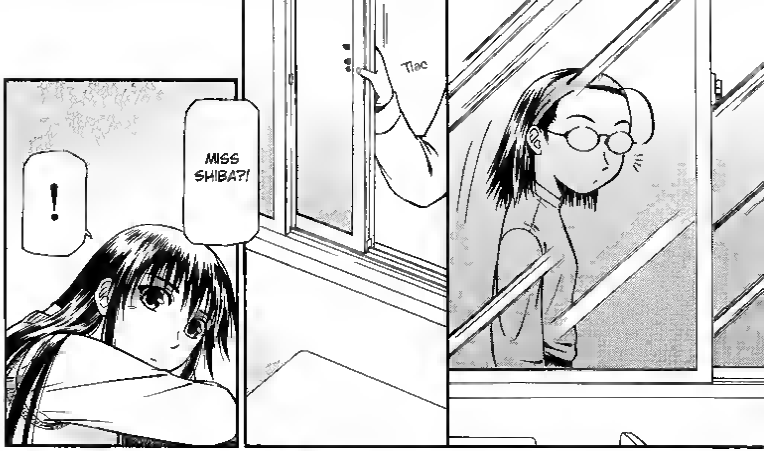
We can share this world and prosper, demons alongside humans!
Humans and demons can accept and respect each other!
道祖神
Put simply: living together!
May I ask how old you are, Miss Atori?

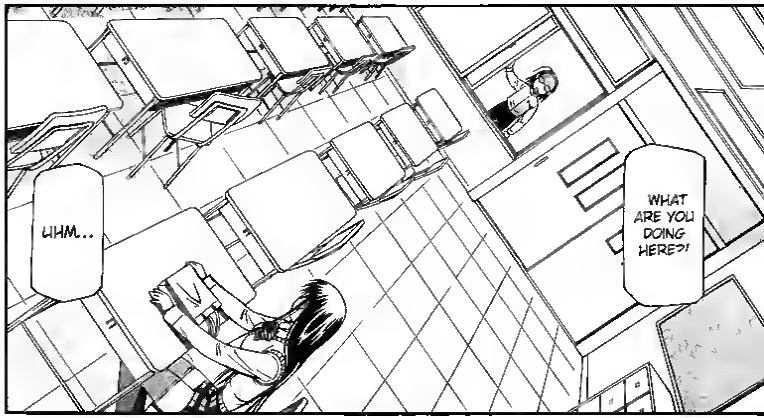
I DON'T KNOW...
Have you experienced love?
You're still young...
16
Heh Heh!
So wait until you fall in love, Miss Atori!
Then you will understand...
the Tenshu's feelings!

Once you know love...
you will discover feelings you never even imagined...
whether your heart's chosen one be human or demon...



Galaw! Galaw!
FIVE YEARS AN' WE'VE NEVER BEEN APART!
NOW! WE'RE TO-GETHER AGAIN!
HE'S GOT A GIRL NOW, APPAR-ENTLY!
YOU SHITTIN' ME?!
♪
♪

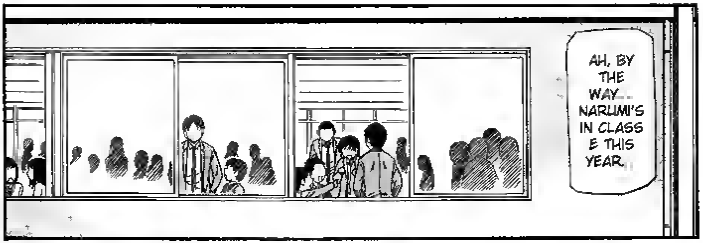

Tlac
MISS SHIBA?!
!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
UHM...

WHY HASN'T CLASS STARTED YET?
AND WHERE IS EVERYONE?!

I'M YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER..
UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THIS YEAR YOU'RE IN 2-F.
2-F
AH, ATORI! THERE YOU ARE! FINALLY!!
COU-COU!
HI!
.....
Galam

BAH, I WAS ACTUALLY REALLY EARLY.
YOU ONLY COME IN NOW? I THOUGHT YOU HAD A CASE OF HUGGING THE PILLOW!
BUT I WAS AIRHEADED ENOUGH TO GO DIRECTLY TO LAST YEAR'S CLASS-ROOM.
FOR REAL?!
CAN YOUR HEAD EVEN GO THAT HIGH UP IN THE CLOUDS?!
HI, SHIBA! WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN, I SEE!!
UH... YEAH...
HOPE WE CAN KEEP GETTING ALONG!


AH, BY THE WAY... NARUMI'S IN CLASS E THIS YEAR.

.....
AT LEAST ONE PERSON I KNOW WILL BE DEVASTATED OVER THIS...
RIGHT...?

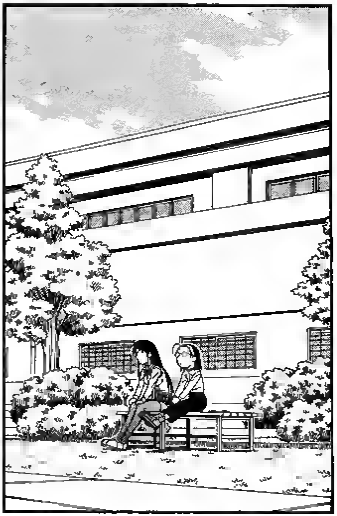
THIS YEAR I'M DEAD SET ON GETTING MYSELF A BOYFRIEND!
WELL, I DON'T CARE ONE BIT!
Keep telling yourself that sweetheart!
Dammit, will you two leave me alone?!
.....

MY NAME'S FUJIMIYA MOMOKO!
I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF CLASS 2-F.
THIS WILL BE MY FIRST TIME AS A HOMEROOM TEACHER...
AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, I'M REALLY NERVOUS, SO PLEASE DON'T BE TOO HARD ON ME!
SHE'S SO TINY...
NOT EVEN 4'11" I BET!

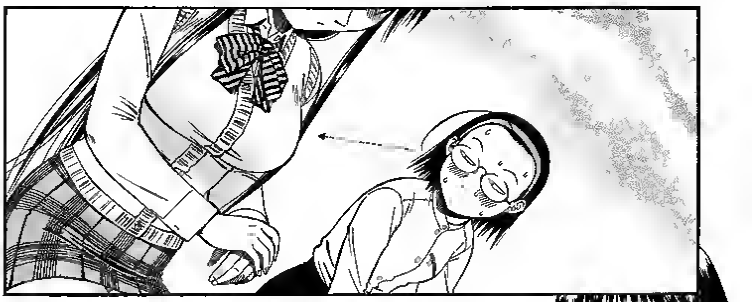
YOU'LL SEE THAT THIS YEAR WILL BE THE MOST ENJOYABLE YEAR YOU SPEND IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT!
LAST YEAR, YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH HIGH SCHOOL LIFE, AND THE VARIOUS CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES...
SO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THIS YEAR TO STOCK UP ON UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES!
DON'T FORGET THAT NEXT YEAR YOU NEED TO CHOOSE A CAREER PATH...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MS. FUJIMIYA? WHAT MEMORIES DID YOU PICK UP FROM YOUR SECOND YEAR?
ME?
WELL...
I MADE LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS...
HAD MY FIRST BOYFRIEND... HE WAS SO BIG...
QC: BIG HUH...

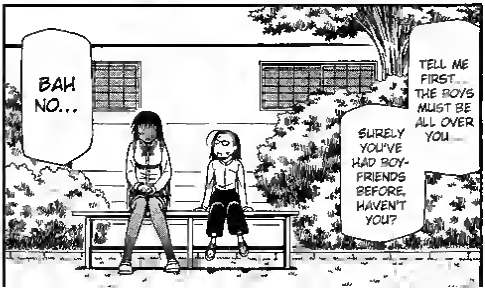
AH!
WHAT AM I SAYING?!
AT ANY RATE... I WISH... UH... WITH ALL MY HEART... THAT THIS YEAR...
IS, UH... VERY ADVANTAGEOUS AND PROFITABLE TO ALL OF YOU...
YOU SAID IT!
SHE'S SOMETHING, THAT TEACHER!

AH, MS SHIBA!
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU..
MS FUJIMIYA.
Jeez I made a fool of myself on my very first day
カラーン コローン
WELL, YOU SEE...
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO TO FIND A BOY-FRIEND...
NOW I'M REALLY STARTING TO FEEL LIKE A HOME-ROOM TEACHER!
OH? RIGHT NOW?! ♡
SO?
WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?



L, LISTEN UP...
WE CAN'T DISCUSS THIS HERE...
I KNOW! WEATHER'S NICE, SO LET'S TALK OUTSIDE!

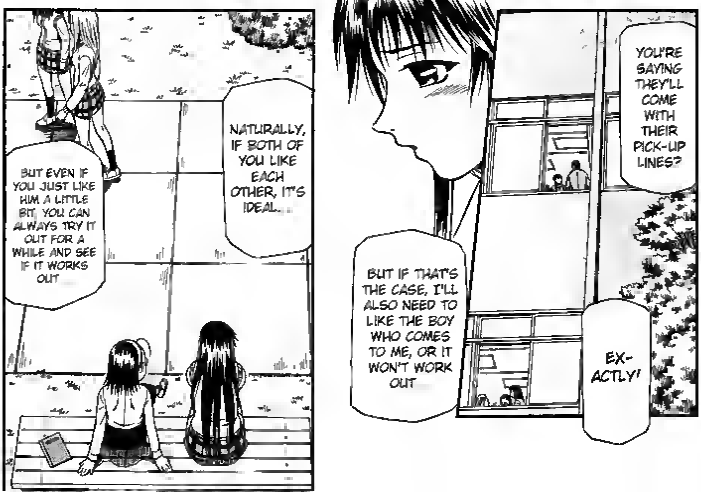


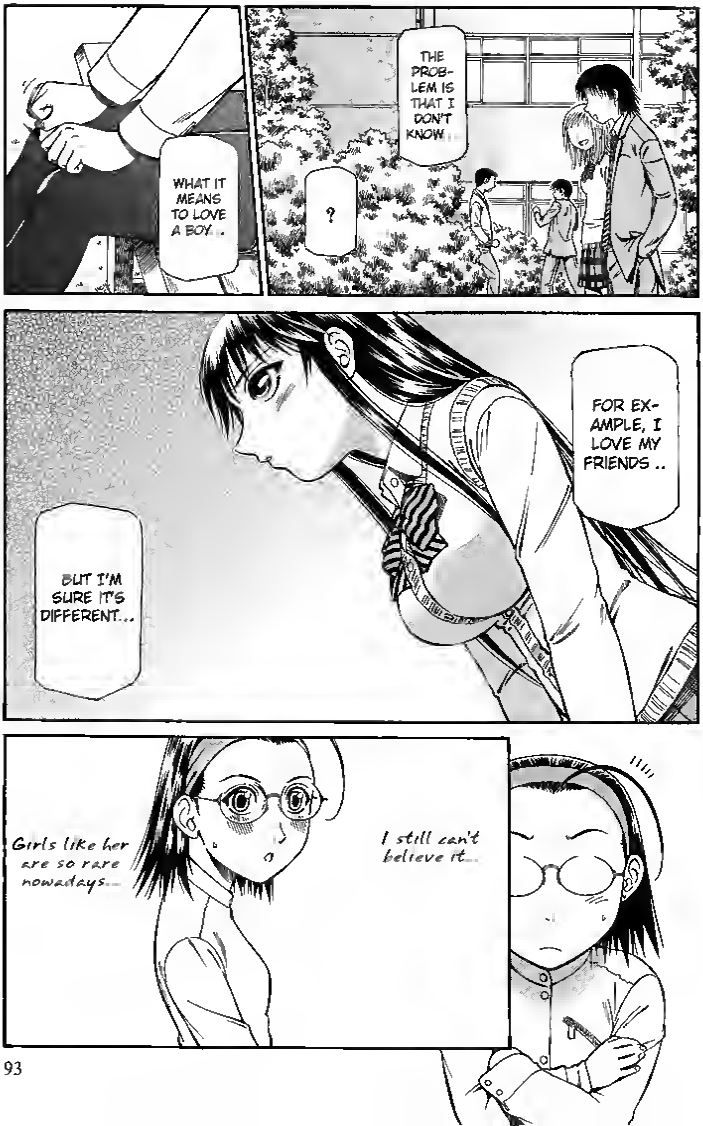

BAH NO...
SURELY YOU'VE HAD BOY-FRIENDS BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?
TELL ME FIRST... THE BOYS MUST BE ALL OVER YOU...

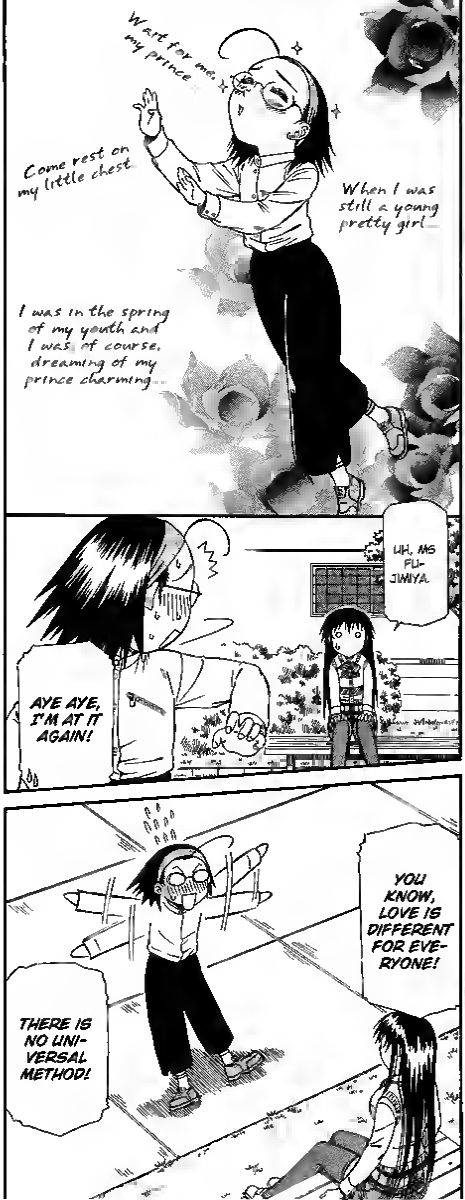
?
HAAAAAA

I ASSURE YOU I'M NOT!
YOU PULLING MY LEG?!
SCOUT'S HONOUR!
REALLY?
HAAAAA...
MS FUKIMIYA?
SORRY!
AH!
No hard feelings!
Sorry, babe this thing won't work out!
I REMEMBER MY BOYFRIEND IN UNIVERSITY WAS CRAZY FOR BIG CHESTS
Krrr

YOU KNOW YOUR BODY WILL BE THE FIRST THING BOYS LOOK AT!
AND YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT IN THAT DE-PARTMENT SISTER!
YOU'RE VERY PRETTY AND YOUR BODY IS SUPERB. .
EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T DO ANY-THING, I'M SURE BOYS WOULD COME TO YOU...


YOU'RE SAYING THEY'LL COME WITH THEIR PICK-UP LINES?
EX-ACTLY!
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL ALSO NEED TO LIKE THE BOY WHO COMES TO ME, OR IT WON'T WORK OUT
NATURALLY, IF BOTH OF YOU LIKE EACH OTHER, IT'S IDEAL...
BUT EVEN IF YOU JUST LIKE HIM A LITTLE BIT, YOU CAN ALWAYS TRY IT OUT FOR A WHILE AND SEE IF IT WORKS OUT


WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE A BOY..
?
THE PROB-LEM IS THAT I DON'T KNOW...
FOR EX-AMPLE, I LOVE MY FRIENDS..
BUT I'M SURE IT'S DIFFERENT...
Girls like her are so rare nowadays...
I still can't believe it...


Wart for me, my prince
Come rest on my little chest
When I was still a young pretty girl...
I was in the spring of my youth and I was, of course, dreaming of my prince charming...
UH, MS FUJIMIYA
AYE AYE, I'M AT IT AGAIN!
YOU KNOW, LOVE IS DIFFERENT FOR EVERYONE!
THERE IS NO UNIVERSAL METHOD!
Not to mention the body she's got...
It's hard to imagine she'd keep her feelings so pure...
IN APPEARANCE AT LEAST...

ONE DAY, A BOY WILL SPEAK TO YOU, OR HE'LL DO SOMETHING THAT PULLS YOU IN...
AND YOU WILL SLOWLY BECOME PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HIM!
RIGHT HERE, AT THE VERY CENTRE OF YOUR HEART!
Ms. Fujimiya that tickles...
Still, those are pretty impressive!
THEN EVERY TIME YOU THINK OF HIM, THAT IS, ALL DAY LONG, YOU WILL FEEL YOUR CHEST GETTING TIGHTER...
BIT BY BIT, HE'LL TAKE A BIGGER AND BIGGER PLACE...
DON'T WORRY, IT WILL COME NATURALLY!
YOU WILL ALSO MEET A BOY ONE DAY WHO CAN SHAKE YOUR SOUL...
I HOPE...

I never expected to have a conversation like that with a girl of her generation...
!?
HUMANS ARE REALLY COMPLICATED..
Yep. She's special, all right...

MIYAKO?!
YO, ATORI!
!!!!
RIGHT YOU ARE, MY GIRL! I ENROLLED IN YOUR SCHOOL!
THE UNIFORM'S A BIT LOOSE.
BUT IT SUITS ME WELL, DOESN'T IT?
YEAH!
SO HOW ARE THINGS WITH N.U.E.?

I SEE...
THE BALANCE OF POWER AMONGST DEMONS IS NO LONGER THE SAME.
WELL, IT'S NOT A PICNIC...
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT...
AT SCHOOL WE'RE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LIKE ALL THE OTHERS!
BUT HOW ABOUT WE FORGET ALL OF THAT WHILE WE'RE HERE?
IT MUST BE TOUGH...
NOT BAD... I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE B SET
OH, WHILE I'M AT IT, HOW'S THE FOOD HERE?
SO FIRST THINGS FIRST. WHY DON'T YOU SHOW ME AROUND?

ATORI
RAW PROVIDER: SHARE
TRANSLATOR: GEORGI
PROOFREADER: LORDLESTAT
CLEANER: WILCOXII
TYPESETTER: WILCOXII
Q-CER: LORDLESTAT
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SAY, JIRAIYA, GIVEN THAT THE N.U.E IS IN A CRISIS SITUATION AT THE MOMENT...
AND THIS IS FOR YOU!
DO YOU THINK I CAN KEEP WORKING FOR THEM?
1
LOOK NO FURTHER!
GET YOUR BARGAIN PRICED VEGETABLES!
Actually, Namase contacted me!
You will no longer be getting official documents,
but if you are to encounter a demon who looks suspicious...
feel free to take care of business!

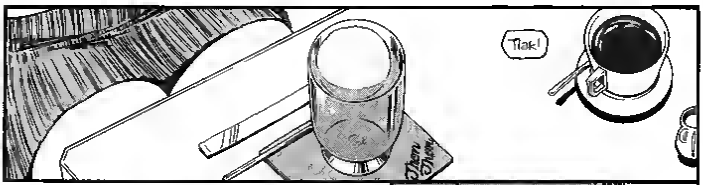
INDEED.
THAT'S ONE HELL OF A FACE!
Nyark!
this fellow seems to fit the bill quite nicely!
For example...
CHAPTER 18 REUNION

NARUMI...
I'M NOT FEELING TOO GOOD... WAY TOO CROWDED
TO TOP IT OFF, THE AIR ISN'T BREATHABLE...
I WARNED YOU THAT FOLLOWING ME WAS A BAD IDEA!
YOU CAN'T EVEN DISAPPEAR OR TRANSFORM AT WILL RIGHT NOW!

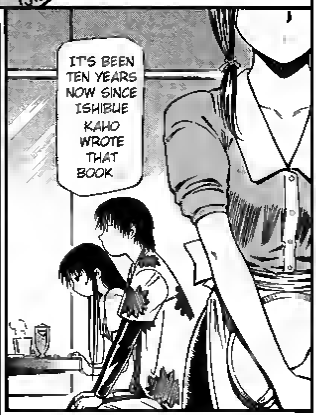
AH IT MUST BE HERE!
Ding!
YOU OK, HI-CHAN? THINK YOU CAN MANAGE?
WHAT WAS WITH THAT FAT CAGE MOVING ALL ON ITS OWN?
WHAT?!
IT'S CLOSED
I FORGOT IT WAS SUNDAY
I'M AN IDIOT
THERE IT IS!
U-Ga Publishing

EXCUSE ME
THE OFFICES ARE CLOSED, BUT...
I PERHAPS MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU?
YOU WORK AT U-GA PUBLISHING?!
My name's Hamura!
WILL YOU GET OUT OF MY FACE ALREADY?
?
OH, ISHIBUE KAHO?!
THIS REMINDS ME OF WHEN I FIRST STARTED...
ACTUALLY, I WANTED TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS...
Those who are "there",
Ishibue Kaho
ABOUT THE AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK...

SEE THIS GIRL HERE?
WELL, THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE THAT SHE IS HIS DAUGHTER!
HUH?!


Tink!

I ONLY HAD TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH THE PUBLISHER AT THE TIME...
AND THIS BOOK'S SCRIPT WAS THE VERY FIRST I WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF... SO I REMEMBER IT QUITE


IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS NOW SINCE ISHIBUE KAHO WROTE THAT BOOK

AND THIS WAS THE ONLY WORK HE EVER PUBLISHED
PROFESSOR ISHIRUE WORKED AS A UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTOR
THOSE WHO ARE "THERE"...
STILL, IT WAS A GOOD ONE, DON'T YOU THINK?
AGREED... HIS DESCRIPTIONS WERE VERY REALISTIC...
AND READING HIS BOOK, IT REALLY FEELS LIKE HE WENT THERE HIMSELF JUST TO GET A CLOSER LOOK...
YES HE REFERS TO BEINGS FROM THE BEYOND AS "DIABLOS"
SHE WAS PLACED IN THE CARE OF A FOSTER FAMILY SINCE BIRTH...
ACTUALLY...
SEE, AS FAR AS I'M AWARE, PROFESSOR ISHIRUE DIDN'T HAVE A DAUGHTER...
BUT LET'S RETURN TO THE TOPIC AT HAND...

SHE'S NEVER MET HER REAL PARENTS...
AND READING THIS BOOK, I COULDN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF MR. ISHIBUE WASN'T HER FATHER...
AND HOW COULD YOU COME TO SUCH A CONCLUSION FROM READING A BOOK ABOUT SUPERNATURAL BEINGS?
UH, WELL... I'M SORRY BUT...
FOR THE MOMENT, I CAN'T REVEAL ANY MORE.....
MR. ISHIBUE'S REAL NAME...
IS INDEED SHIBA KOHEI, IS IT NOT?
?
Tok!

AH, SORRY...
IT'S "YAMADA"...
The name of the university? Sure I can give it to you...
but I believe he took a break from teaching...
I'm sure you can understand why...
Be that as it may I am unable to provide you with his coordinates, or any other personal information...
SO, NARUMI, OFF TO HOME NOW?!
I'M STARVING!

ヒュン
ヒュン
EH?!
WHERE DID HE GO?
ハァハァ

M... MY MEAT!!

AH...
STOMP
LUSCIOUS, SUPERIOR QUALITY VEAL CHOPS I WAS SO LOOKING FORWARD TO TASTING!
AAA AH!

HOLY SHIT THAT'S HUGE!
HE WAS AT LEAST THAT BIG
KYAA AH!
HUH?
THE FUCK...?!
WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
Wait up, you son of a bitch!!
AH, HE'S LANDED!
Zzap!
BUT... BUT... MEAT LIKE THAT... IT'S A CRIME!!
Let it go, Atori!

ハッ

Atori!
Where are you?!
Atori?!

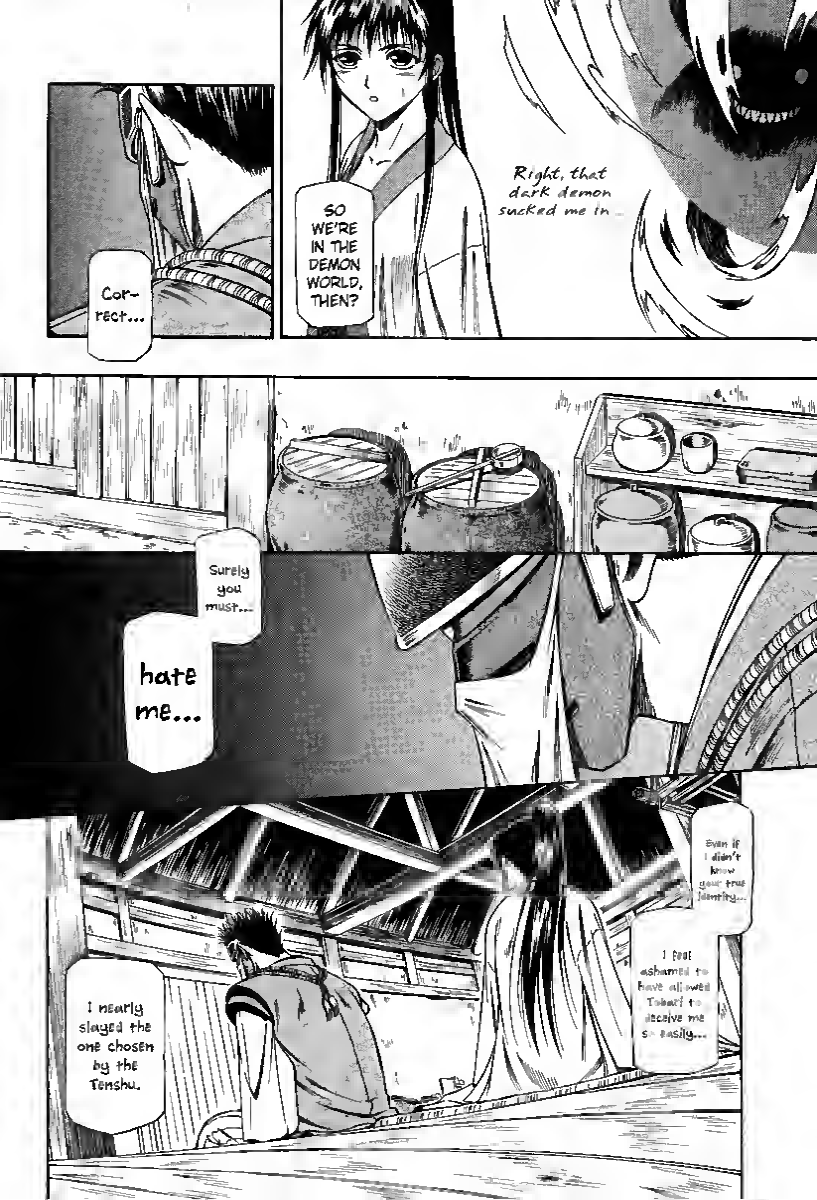
Shrak!

ポカ
ドボ

Tsk!
.....
HNNNN?
OH?
I'M ALL NAKED
!!
Gotom!

Ah, you've come to...
Here, put this on! It seems you're half human...
and I know females from over there don't like to be seen naked...
MITSURUGI!!

It's a bit big for you, but I should do...
.....
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
Should be good now...
tally ho!
MITSU-RUGI, WHAT AM I...?
KIOM!
Do you know Kaji?
I went to present him my apologies after wounding you...
and he sliced off my left arm.
KAJI...?
Hence I came here for healing and re-covery...
and I found you floating unconscious in the river.


Right, that dark demon sucked me in...
SO WE'RE IN THE DEMON WORLD, THEN?
Correct...
Surely you must...
hate me...
Even if I didn't know your true identity...
I feel ashamed to have allowed Tsubaki to deceive me so easily...
I nearly slayed the one chosen by the Tenshu.

If it is your desire, you may use your sword on me to make it even...
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY IF I UNDERSTOOD YOU CORRECTLY, KAJI ALREADY TOOK CARE OF THAT FOR ME, DIDN'T HE?
BESIDES, I SHOULD HAVE EVADED YOUR ATTACK. I ONLY HAVE MYSELF TO BLAME!
YOU TRULY ARE AN EXCEPTIONAL SWORDSMAN MITSURUGI

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME A DEMON ATTACKED ME WITH SUCH STRENGTH!
IT STILL GIVES ME CHILLS JUST THINKING ABOUT IT.
BUT I SINCERELY HOPE...
...THAT WE CAN CROSS OUR BLADES AGAIN SOMEDAY!
If that is your wish...
パキッ

Shrak!
No doubt about it – today's day for visits!
Who is that guy?
Yeah, who?
What's he talking about?

Him, it's been forever since we last saw him!
Don't you remember him, Dousersu?
It's Mitsurugi! Years and years since he last showed his face!!
What?! Mitsu-rugi?!
The guy with the "Black Chopper"?!
Wait, Dousersu! Our goal is the Nue girl!
Shut up!!
Don't expect me to let this piece of shit go!

Hello, my boy! As you can see, the horn that you cut never grew back!
You should feel grateful I let you off with just one!

Worthless trash!!

ヒュ
ヒュ
Since it bothers you that much...
Guess I'll go for the neck this time!
!!

He he he... this incompetent Yumakage...
couldn't even bring one little girl to us...
He let her fall in the river...
But thanks to him, I was able to find you, Mitsuruji! And that's infinitely more important!!
ひゃひゃ
ひゃひゃ

I therefore conclude that this failed kidnapping was by his decree...
If memory serves, you were one of Yagiou's men... that venerable sage...
Isn't that right, Dousetsu?
If that is indeed the case...
He's likely to meet my sword along his path!

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CHAPTER 19 EN ROUTE TO "OVER THERE"

LEVEL
The monster just jumped out of the bushes, and "woof", it summoned this big black round thing!
And then next thing you know, he and Atori disappeared inside it with a terrible suction noise!!
Atori disappeared?!
I'm at a loss here...
Hi, KAJI!
Oh, speak of the devil, look who's here!
Atori!!!
WA AH!

Eh?! What the hell, it's Hi-chan again?!
Ah
She's a fake?!
Uh... so what's gotten over him?
Hi-chan was the one who normally lodges in your hair, right?
Pff
Uh... yeah...

In any case, it looks like you might've taken her bait, but you're still far off the mark!
She disappeared, and I'm afraid she might have been taken "over there", if you know what I mean!
"Over there"?
In the other world?!
I'm afraid so dear
Is that true, Jiraiya?

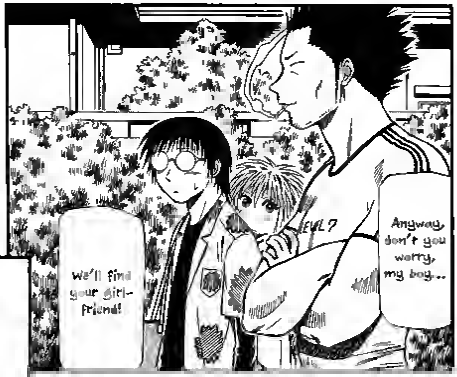
Whaa at?!
Well, you've come at the right time!
You're going to stay transformed as Atori until we find her!
SONIC

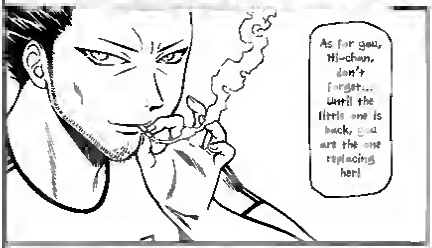
YOU AIN'T MY BOSS!!
Until then, I'll need to make use of your talents!
Yep, but don't you worry! I'll find a way to bring her back!
LEVEL?
But if Narumi asks me to...
I'm willing to make an effort!
HMM...
WELL, IT'S CLEAR THAT IT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP—
SO COULD YOU DO THIS FOR ME, PLEASE?
Oh, who are? He's not human! Quit it! We aren't alone!
But we asked you to stay as Atori just a second ago
I see you like that Narumi of yours and I won't judge.
LEVEL ?

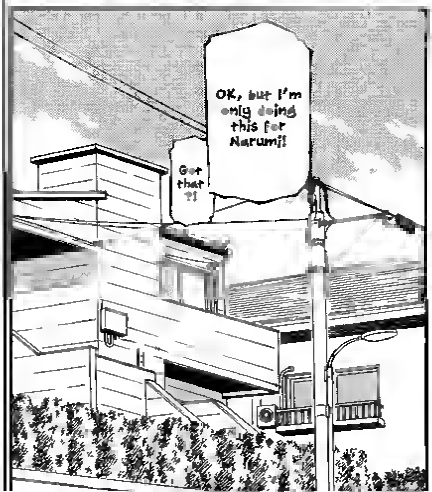
I'm on it!
See ya, Hi-chan!
Jiraiya, go tell Namase about what happened!
After that, you'll go looking for Atari!
All right, then, Srrr-Srrrs, on your feet!

Srr!
Srr!
わし
わし
わし
First one to find her gets a reward!
You are all to go looking for her!
Srr!

Off you go!
good luck you guys!
LEVEL?
Oh!
Gnsl
Srrt
I'm wondering why they would take her away..
that's what's bothering me...
LEVEL·7
THINK WE WILL FIND HER?


We'll find your girlfriend!
Level?
Anyway, don't you worry, my boy...


As for you, Hi-chan, don't forget... Until the little one is back, you are the one replacing her!


OK, but I'm only doing this for Narumi!
Got that?!

Boss said he wanted the Nue girl...
but maybe we should just show her a good time instead...
Now that's an idea...
It'd be one less meddling bitch!
Yeah, good rid-dance!
IF YOUR BOSS WANTS TO SEE ME, HE SHOULD COME HIM-SELF!

ONE WORD OF ADVICE..
I'M NOT A BIG FAN OF THE WAY YOU'RE DOING THINGS!
Got the itch to play, babe?!

OUAA
ARG!

WUU GH!
OUE RK!
UR K!

Oooh! ♡
The Tenshu's girl...
isn't doing too bad...
Won't you give them a hand?
It seems to me that this girl is more than they can handle...
I couldn't care less...
I didn't ask for those morons to come with me!
ズバッ

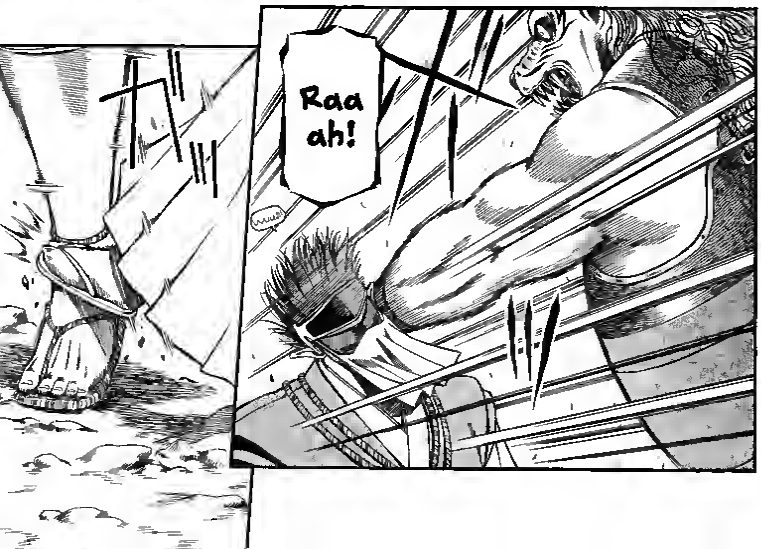
You know as well as I do that among demons...
It's every demon for himself!
Anyway, I'm more than happy with our little reunion!
All that matters to me is getting your pretty little head!!
I see... No sense of unity... As I thought, you're just a bunch of vulgar gangsters!

Kkk...
You son of a...
Oomf!

Nobody mocks me and gets away with it!

GNAA
HP!
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ

What's that slut got to do with any of it?!
I'd love nothing more than...
to cut your neck...
but in front of Atori, I'll pass...


Raa ah!

Waa ah!
Waa...
Waa ah!!
Oo rr!

GH...
GGGH..
Kil...
Aren't you going to finish them?
I ONLY KILL DEMONS WHO OVER-STEP THEIR BOUNDA-RIES WITH HUMANS
You brushed with death there, Dousetsu...
.....

ARE YOU A FRIEND OF MITSURUGI?
!
With him? Is that a joke?!
He's an enemy, and nothing else!!
I WANT YOU TO TAKE ME TO YAGIOU!
Now if you're gonna kill me, do it once and for all so we can finish this!

To... to Yagiou?!
I NEED TO KNOW...
WHAT'S HIS STANCE AGAINST N.U.B....
WHY HE RELEASED TOBARI.
AND ABOVE ALL, WHY HE'S BOTHERING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE...
WHEN HE'S THE MAIN REASON FOR THE CHAOS CRIPPLING THE DEMON WORLD TODAY!
Aron...
HAH, THAT'S EASY!
HE'S OUR WORST ENEMY... THE ONE WE NEED TO ELIMINATE AT ALL COST!
Do you actually know who Tobari is?
.....!

!!
This girl and Tobari... they wouldn't happen to be more than just bro...
Wait a minute, Mitsurugi!
?
You, Dousetsu are going to guide us, but "in secret", got that?!
Hrg ...
I'll keep you two company...
You're right, we still know nothing about Yagiou's motives...
All right... I'll guide you...

Just one thing, Atori...
If you come across Tobari, make sure you don't get lost...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
It's up to you to find out!
I know nothing...
.....

I WAS JUST A LITTLE BIT HUNGRY...
AH, NO, I'M GOOD!
Aren't you tired?!
AH!
THE WRAPPING SEEMS TO HAVE HELD TOGETHER...
HMM! WHAT A TREAT! ♡
WANT SOME?
Is that cake from the human world?
Let me try...

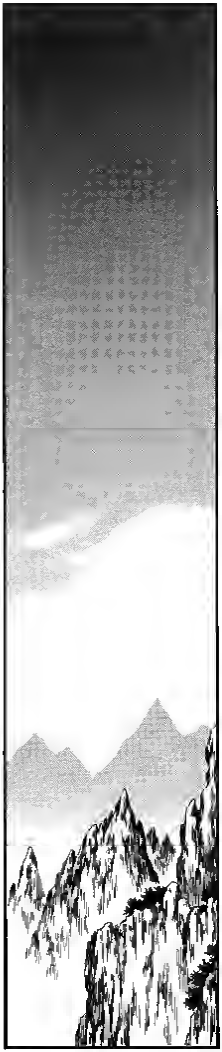
HEY HOW COME YOU ALWAYS WEAR THAT MASK?
Because I loathe my face...
CAN YOU SHOW ME?
No.
PIOK!

"DOUSET-SU", RIGHT? WANT AN ENERGY BAR?
Huh?! No thanks!
You, on the other hand, I must admit I'd gladly eat up!
ひゃひゃひゃ
ゲヒヒ
Oo ps!
ナハハ
Mind your own business!!
Tap!
!
DID MIT-SURUGI CUT THAT HORN OF YOURS?
ゴロン

THERE! LIE DOWN! AND DON'T MOVE!
Gg g!
I forbid you to touch my horn, you dirty little wh...

IT'S HEALING BALM OF THE GREAT TENGU OF MOUNT HOURAI!
IT'S GREAT FOR SWORD-INFLICTED WOUNDS! YOU CAN TRUST ME ON THAT!
MITSURUGI HAD SLICED ME ALMOST IN HALF, AND I'M GOOD AS NEW!
Mitsurugi...
sliced you almost in half...?

HE'S REALLY STRONG.
I'M SURE YOU'RE ALSO PISSED THAT YOU LOST...
AND THERE!
I'M POSITIVE THAT WITH THIS, IT WILL GROW BACK!
AND NEXT TIME, YOU'LL SHOW MITSURUGI WHO'S BOSS!
Bur.
Why bother doing all this?



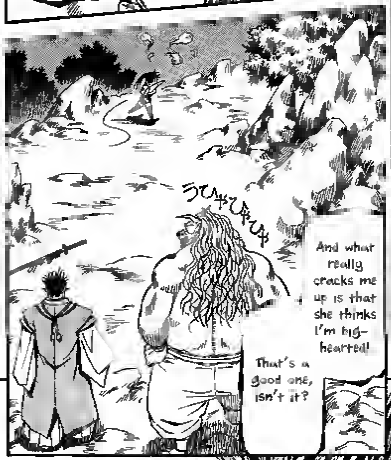
Sooner or later, we'll be enemies again... so why?
OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT REFERRING TO THOSE WHO WOULD HARM HUMANS

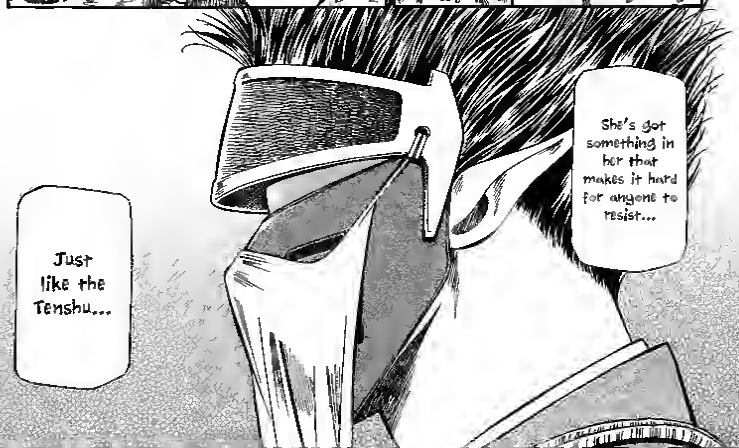
BUT IN GENERAL I WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH ALL THE DEMONS WHOEVER THEY MIGHT BE...
ESPE-CIALLY...

THE BIG-HEARTED ONES LIKE YOU!

I've never met the Tenshu....
but looking at her daughter, I feel like being her mother's puppy.

Say, Mitsu-rugi...
Is she really the Tenshu's daughter?


ぶんぶくぶくぶく
And what really cracks me up is that she thinks I'm big-hearted!
That's a good one, isn't it?


She's got something in her that makes it hard for anyone to resist...
Just like the Tenshu...

Oh no! Don't you start, too!
Besides, you might be a good guy after all...
Douset-su...
Look, I never even imagined...
that one day we'd walk side by side.
That's really not funny!
All right, enough of this!

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CHAPTER 20 GETTING CLOSER TO THE TENSHU

OH, THIS SMELLS PRETTY DARN GOOD!
Those are soft potatoes from my garden!
I baked them just now!
Can't say the same about the colour though
So then how about those chicken eggs I just stole from a human?
The girlie's half-human?! You don't say...
You shouldn't eat them, Atori...
For a half-human like you, those could be toxic...

AH... SORRY, BUT I HAVEN'T GOT ANY MONEY ON ME!
I FORGOT MY WALLET!
?
Your what?
There you go, fossil! This for the eggs!
DOU SET-SU!
Ha ha! That's some pretty stone you've got there!
Deal! I'll make a ring for my wife out of it!
Here in the demon world, we only trade with goods!

I THINK SO... I'D LEFT IT BY THE FIRE-PLACE TO DRY...
Where did you forget your wallet?
In my hut?
At any rate, there are no robbers around here, so no need to worry...
Hmmm! Too bad we don't have any mayonnaise!
No, thank you!
You can eat all of them!
DOUS ETSU!
THOSE ARE THE BEST! WANT ONE?

It's my blood.
HOW COME YOU WERE CARRYING IT AROUND?
BY THE WAY, WHAT WAS THAT RED STONE YOU GAVE TO THE MERCHANT?
BLOOD?!
YOUR...
Kii!
Kii!

Kii!
ぶぉおおお
Aaah, we're finally there!
That took us forever...
with the puny human tagging along. well, "half-human"...
Geh! Geh!
チャリ
Kii! Kii!
SORRY...
キン
.....

Wait a second, Dousetsu...
From here on, you can't go wrong. Just go straight!
Well then, this is where our paths split...
See that crack in the cliff?
It's the shortest route to the castle...
You wouldn't be trying to trick us by any chance, would you?
Huh?! What are you saying?!
I'm asking if you're luring us into a trap!
And yet it's simple...

You... you don't trust me?!
MITSU-RUGI...
!
AH!

Z-rik! Z-rik!
Careful, Atori!
They're trying to surround us!!
!?
are those things?!
Shit, what the hell...

Atori!
AH!!
ボコ
Z-rik!
WHAT THE?!
Z-rik!
IT TURNED THE SAME COLOUR AS MY BAG!

I see your arm got wounded... how bad is it?!
These creatures have an extraordinary knack for camouflage!
Don't let your guard down! They're all around us!
Yes, but these creatures are able to blend in almost instantly!!
Z-rak
BY CAMOUFLAGE DO YOU MEAN LIKE THOSE INSECTS THAT PRETEND TO BE LEAVES?
AH, IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS...
Grrik!
Grrik!
It's the first time I've seen their kind!
Eh, but what are these critters?

I may have wanted to pour shit on you because of that old thing between us! But I did it for...
Mitsurugi, just so we're clear...!
Yeah, I only wanted me to bring him Astaroth, and nothing more...
I believe you...
Underhanded tricks aren't your jazz...

!!
Uh...
Why am I here? What the hell is going on?

Dousetsu, behind you!!
Huh?!
!!
Urk...

ヒュ
DOUS ETSU!
Be more careful!!
!!
Be more careful!!

You were dragged into our world against your will...
You could have just watched me die without lifting a finger...
and yet you ran to save me in the midst of all this shit flying around that you can't even see!
Think of your own hide first, little one!
DOUSE-TSU, DON'T MOVE...
KK K...
YOU'RE LOSING TOO MUCH BLOOD...
Stand back! Whatever you do, don't touch my blood!
Pok!
Pok!

Mitsurugi, the girl can't see those damn beasts! We won't last long in these conditions...
Dousetsu... and you?
Grrk
Grrk! Grrk!
So run and take her with you!
Funny, isn't it...?
Why am I doing this, I wonder?

Maybe because you treated my horn... it was the first time...
someone worried about me...
STAY BEHIND ME!
I'LL STOP THEM!
You idiot!!

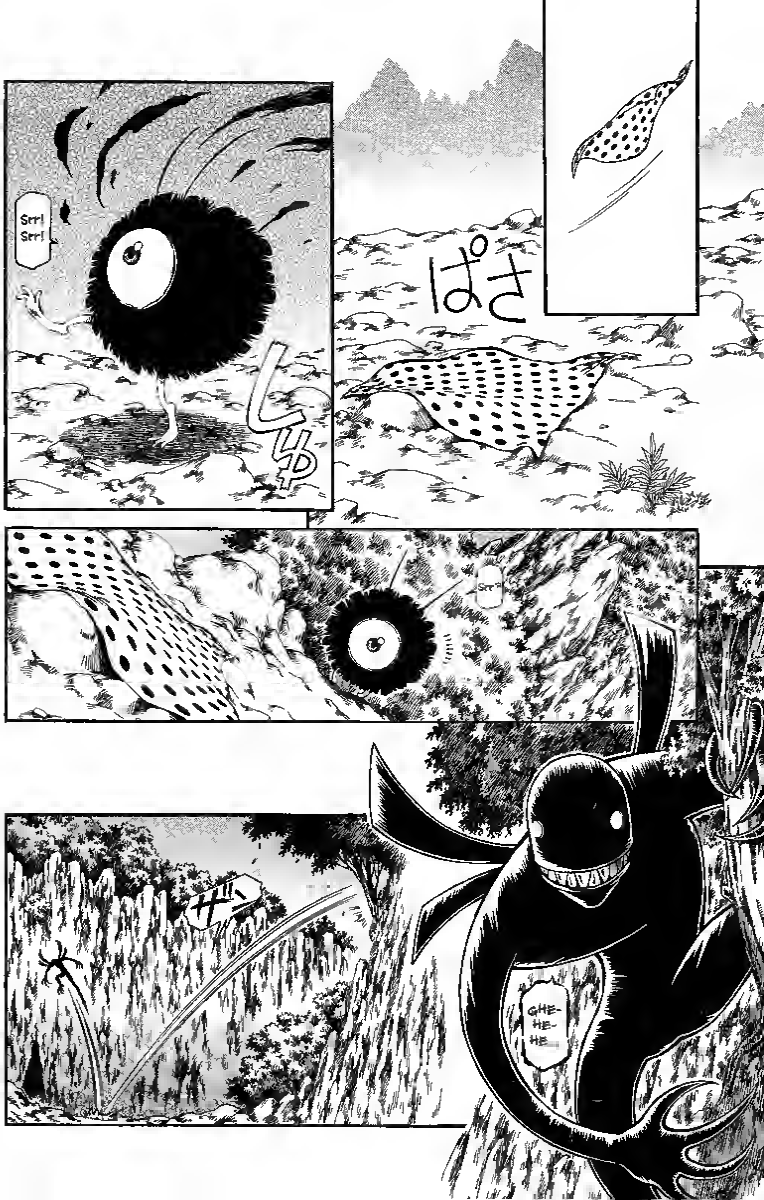
Aaah...
Ah...

Mitsurugi! Take the girl! Hurry!!
ポキン
Gah Gah

DOUSET...
MITSURUGI... LET GO OF ME!!
We must go...
BUT IT'S MY FAULT HE...
!!

Klomp
Klomp
Can't come out now, can you?
Bad luck, eh? My blood coagulants almost instantly...
Gnk!
It was a bad mistake when you rammed into me...
Gnk!
Gnk!
Pretty, ain't it?! Like precious stones...
Atori...
I only regret... that I couldn't witness you...

BECOMING THE NEXT TENSHU...


Srrr! Srrr!
ぱさ
しゃ
Srrr!
GHE-HE-HE...

Flap!
Thing!
You're still following me?
Hmm...

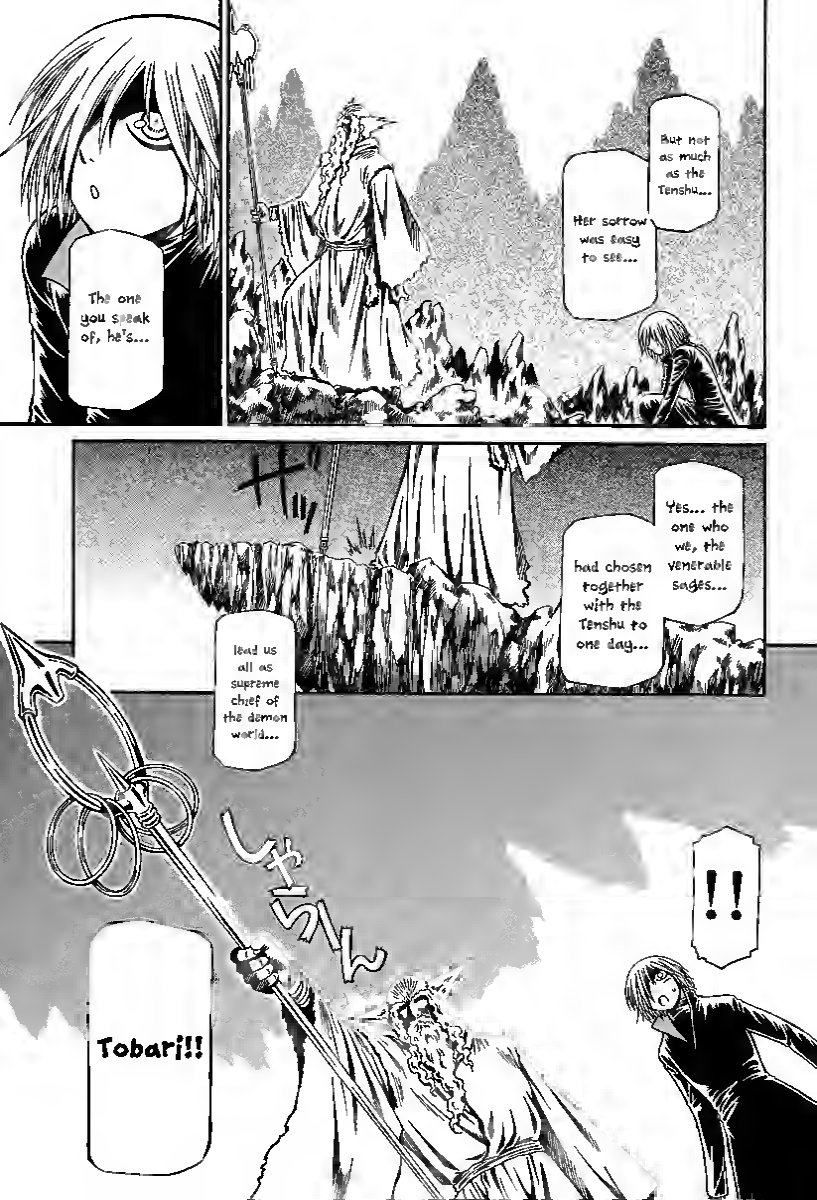
Welcome, oh venerable gramps!
How about spending some quality time with me?
Oh, I would gladly take you up on that, but I'm a bit busy, so...
Now, don't say that...
Over here is what we call the "Demon's Chin", and these mountains are veeery dangerous.

Ting!
So just come with m...
It's mostly the women in these mountains...
that are to be feared...
Bah, Bah!
IS SHE DEAD?
Don't try to take advan-tage!
She'll be waking up soon!
and she'll eat you raw starting from the head!

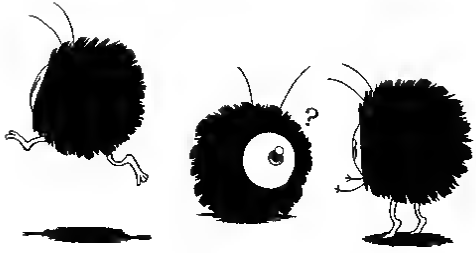
I'm warning you, this won't work!
It's very strong...
This must be Yagirou's boundary...
Thin!
Oh!
I wanted to go through it as a crow, but it didn't work...
Shit, this boundary!
Hu-hu!
Bwark!!

Please allow me to come with you!
You're throwing your life away, my foolish friend..
you'd better turn back while you can!
Do you realize what lies ahead if you come?
Ah... the venerable Senkiou!
I'm Mukau...
and I'm but a humble traveller with no attachments.. who merely seeks to acquire experience...
Oh...? Experience you say?
Then follow me, if that is your wish..

Two thousand years ago...
There was a young man with pure eyes...
Oumf! What a drag!
but one day, he changed into someone completely different...
Stomp
He turned into a wild beast, and attacked not only demons,
but also humans, who he devoured in bulk...
We were really bothered by it...
The Tenshu and the Sages didn't do anything?
Uh, oh!
NOT BAD OLD MAN...


The one you speak of, he's...
Her sorrow was easy to see...
But not as much as the Tenshu...
Yes... the one who we, the venerable sages...
had chosen together with the Tenshu to one day...
lead us all as supreme chief of the demon world...
しゃらん
!!
Tobari!!

CE CE LA CELA····



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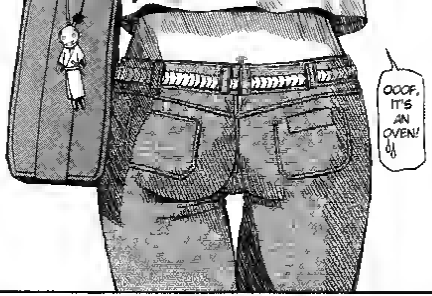
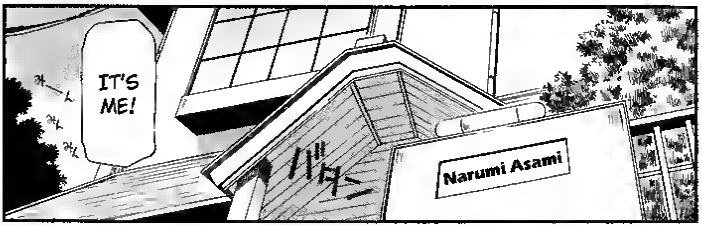
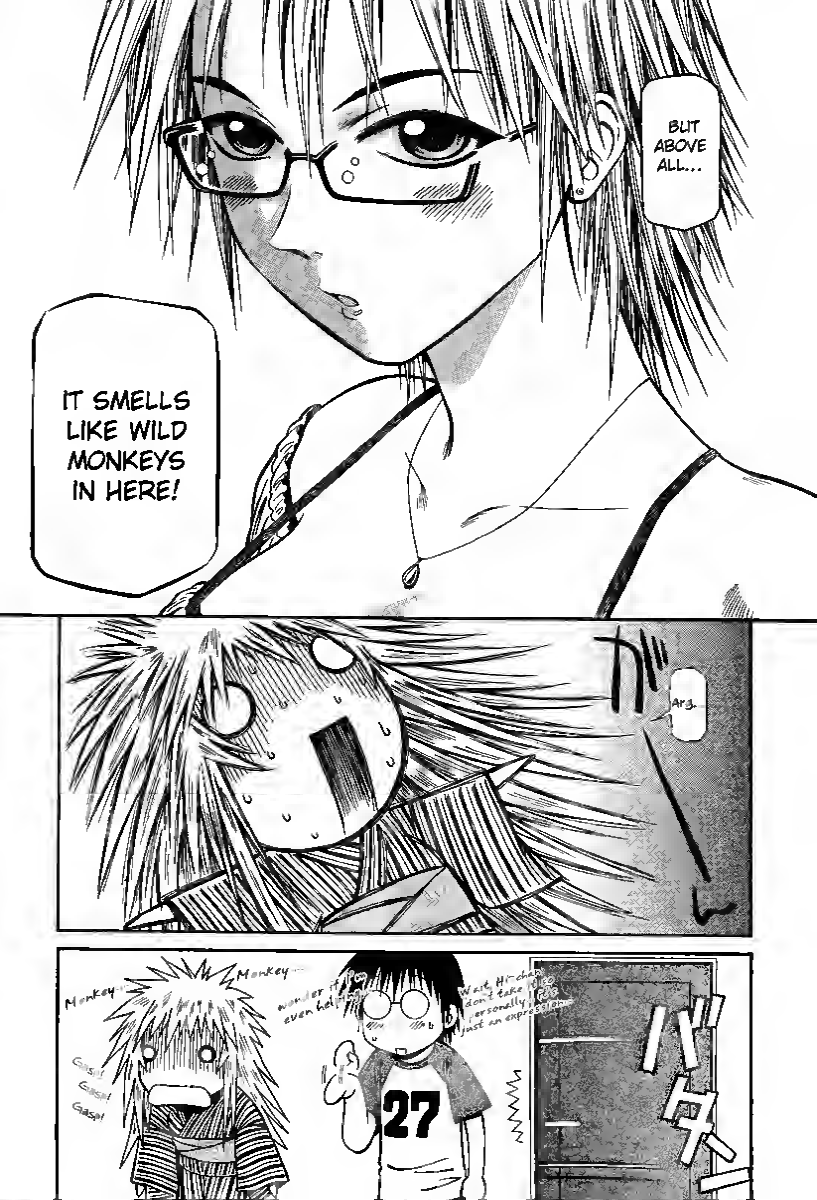
A SURPRISE VISIT





HARUOMI!
SIS!!
HUH?!
I COULD HAVE SWORN I HEARD A GIRL'S VOICE IN HERE...
UH . IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE TV!
WELL DAMN... I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU'D BROUGHT A GIRL HOME...
YEAH, WELL NEXT TIME, KNOCK BEFORE YOU BARGE IN!!
LOOK, THE GUEST IN THIS SHOW!
Yes!
Did you get a new haircut?
MEC
HOW DISAPPOINTING!
Phew! She doesn't see me
バチン

That so?
SHH!
Who was that?
SHE'S MY SECOND OLDEST SISTER. SHE ALREADY LEFT HOME.
JUST LIKE THE OLDEST ONE
Hey, Narumi...
WAAAH!
again?!
Hi-chan's right here
You again?
27
LOOK .. IT'S REALLY WEIRD...
THERE'S A DEFINITE FEMALE PRESENCE IN YOUR ROOM!!


BUT ABOVE ALL...
IT SMELLS LIKE WILD MONKEYS IN HERE!
Arg.
Monkey...
Monkey...
Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!
27
バタン

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